

HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF  
*The Lawrence Family.*

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R. M. LAWRENCE.

*John A. Lawrence,*  
*from Aunt Grace Lawrence,*  
*OCT 13. 1917.*

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THE LAWRENCE HOMESTEAD GROTON, MASS. 1888.

SHOWING THE OLDER PART OF THE HOUSE, BUILT ABOUT THE YEAR 1796.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES  
OF SOME MEMBERS OF  
THE LAWRENCE FAMILY.

*WITH AN APPENDIX.*

BY  
ROBERT M. LAWRENCE, M.D.

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BOSTON :  
RAND AVERY COMPANY, PRINTERS.  
1888.

*“A good name is better than precious ointment.”*

ECCLES. vii. 1.

*“I leave my character behind me.”*

R. B. SHERIDAN.

929.2  
L421W

To My Wife,

KATHARINE LAWRENCE (CLEAVELAND) LAWRENCE,

These Sketches

ARE AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED.





## PREFACE.

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SEVERAL years ago the writer obtained possession of a package of old deeds and other original documents relating to descendants of John Lawrence of Wisset, Eng., who were among the early settlers in Middlesex County, Mass. The interest awakened by an examination of these papers led to a study of the family history, and especially that of the first five generations in America; and in this little volume are given the results of these researches. Absolute accuracy in a work of this kind is hardly to be attained. The incompleteness of many town and church records, the frequent changes of residence of individuals, and the confusion arising from a repetition of certain Christian names,—these are among the hinderances well-known to the student of family history. The writer will, therefore, be glad to be informed of any errors or omissions which may be discovered.

It is fitting that due acknowledgment should be made to the Hon. Samuel A. Green, M.D., from whose many valuable publications concerning Groton material has been freely drawn; to Francis M. Boutwell, Esq., for assistance in locating some of the old homesteads; to George D. Brigham, Esq., town clerk of Groton; to Samuel A. Eddy, Esq., of Canaan, Conn.; and to Mrs.

Martha Gray of Roxbury District, Boston. For information on various points, the writer is indebted to many different members of the family. The excellent genealogy prepared by the Rev. John Lawrence has been of much assistance.

R. M. L.

LEXINGTON, MASS., June 23, 1888.

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## HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF THE LAWRENCE FAMILY.

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### JOHN LAWRENCE,

A native of Wisset, Suffolk County, Eng., the ancestor of many New-England families of the name, was baptized Oct. 8, 1609, and emigrated to this country about the year 1630. It is probable that he was one of the large party under Gov. Winthrop, which sailed from England in that year.<sup>1</sup> His father, whose name was Henry, also came to this country, and settled in Charlestown about 1635;<sup>2</sup> and in the same year, or earlier, John Lawrence became a resident of Watertown. He was probably married at about this time, but the precise date and place cannot be given. His wife's name was Elizabeth; and they had thirteen children, of whom the greater number were born in Watertown. At about the age of twenty-eight, he was admitted a freeman. In the oldest volume of the Massachusetts Records is the following: "Made free the 17th: 2nd month A.D. 1637 John Lawrence" and others. His trade was that of a carpenter. Probably his first purchase of land in Watertown was a lot on the east side of Fresh Pond. He also bought thirty-five acres of Isaac Cummins, which the latter had received in the earliest general land-grants in 1636, called the "Great Dividends." He owned, moreover, fifteen acres of land at "Pequusset Common,"

<sup>1</sup> Butler's History of Groton, p. 273.

<sup>2</sup> Frothingham's History of Charlestown, p. 84.

afterwards called "King's Common," in the northerly part of the township. On Feb. 28, 1636-7, he received a grant of three acres of plough-land on the west side of Beaver Brook, within the present borders of Waltham. From the Watertown lists of possessions in 1642, it appears that he then owned more than one hundred and fifty acres. His homestead was "bounded on the east by the highway; north by Timothy Hawkins and John Hammond; west by the meadow of John Biscoe; south by land of John Flemming, deceased; wid. Dix, and her sonne; wid. Bartlett, and said Biscoe."<sup>1</sup> From a comparison of ancient plans with modern maps, it appears that this estate was situated in the present town of Belmont, on the west side of Common Street, one-fifth of a mile from its junction with Belmont Street, and a little north of the residence of Mr. John C. Palfrey. At a County Court, whose session was begun at Cambridge, April 1, 1662, John Lawrence was a member of the grand jury; and the records show that he was "absent in [the] October Court."<sup>2</sup> On Oct. 23 of that year, he sold several pieces of real estate; and on the same day "Jn<sup>o</sup>. Lawrance of Water-Towne, Sen<sup>r</sup>. & Carpent<sup>r</sup>." conveyed to John Biscoe his homestead above mentioned, consisting of a dwelling-house, barns, and other buildings, and thirteen acres of land, including gardens, orchards, pastures, meadows, and plough-land, "being the now mansion-place of mee the said Jn<sup>o</sup>. Lawrance."<sup>3</sup> In the late autumn of 1662, as nearly as can be ascertained, he removed his residence to Groton, where his name appears on the records in the following Decem-

<sup>1</sup> Bond's History of Watertown.

<sup>2</sup> Middlesex County Court records.

<sup>3</sup> Middlesex Registry of Deeds, fol. 2, p. 166.

ber. His homestead in this town was situated southwest of Gibbet Hill, a short distance east of the First Parish Meeting-house, and near where Love Lane joins the present road to Lowell. This farm has been for many years the property and residence of Joseph F. Hall.

As one of the early settlers of Groton, John Lawrence was an original land-proprietor, and owner of a twenty-acre right. He was twice chosen selectman, served also one year as a surveyor of highways, and was a useful and honored citizen. In the year 1664 he became involved in a dispute with the town in regard to the ownership of some land, and the matter was finally decided as follows:—

“At a town metting vpon The 21 of the 7 mo<sup>th</sup> 1665. . . It was this day granted and by voate declared y<sup>t</sup> John lawranc sen<sup>r</sup>. shall quiatly posese and Inioye a parselle of land now in controuersey and allredey within his ffenc and a Joyning to his house lotte contining too acors mor or lesse bounded west and south by the hye way and north and east by his own land & granted to him as a grantiueti.”

In the Middlesex County Court records appears the following quaint petition <sup>1</sup> which probably refers to his son Peleg:—

Groton—22—7—1665.

To the Hon<sup>ed</sup> the County Co<sup>rt</sup> at Cambridge,

Octob. 3. 65.

The humble request of Jnō Lawrence of Groton, That I having a son being now neere upon age & being called upon

<sup>1</sup> It appears that this petition had been previously sent to the General Court, and the latter had acted in the matter as follows: “In ans<sup>r</sup> to the petition of John Lawrence, the Court judgeth it meete to order the petitioner to apply himself to the County Court of Boston, who are hereby empowered to act therein as they shall see cause.” (*Records of Mass.*, vol. iv.)

to attend service in training, I wld crave libertye to request that hee may be considered and if your Wors<sup>pps</sup> see cause freed from training: his Infirmitye is a losse of more than two joynts on his left Thumb which is his hand he is most active with & [he] is much disnabled frō doing any activity by it: I am not unwilling in my sphcare to bee beneficial to ye publig service, yet I psume this may be a disoblig[em]ent upon this acct: The case of ye Lad o<sup>r</sup> chiefe officer is able to informe you of further & y<sup>r</sup>fore not any farther to trouble yo<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>rs</sup> depending upon y<sup>r</sup> equabl determination

I leave my selfe with you & Rest

Yo<sup>r</sup>s Humbly engaged

Jno<sup>'</sup> Lawrence.

What is Aboue Expressed by Jno. Larance is the treuth  
witnes my hand James Parker.

His wife Elizabeth died at Groton Aug. 29, 1663; and he married Nov. 2, 1664, at Charlestown, Susanna, daughter of William Batchelder, by whom he had two daughters. His death occurred at Groton, July 11, 1667; and his widow died July 8, 1668, at Charlestown.

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#### JOHN LAWRENCE, Junior

(1636-1672), the oldest child of John of Wisset, Eng., was born in Watertown, and appears to have lived in Groton for a short time, but soon became a resident of Charlestown. In the Groton records his name appears but once, as follows: "[Novem.] 30 (63) John Mosse of Ipswitch is accepted by the Towne to pay the alotment of John Lawranc Junir." As late as Oct. 10, 1665, the father's name has the affix "sen.," and the inference is, therefore, that the son did not leave



Groton till after that date. The latter was twice married.

The "Inventory of the Estatte of Jn<sup>o</sup> Larance," taken in 1672, contains these items: "house and land with wharffe £90.; a shallop, Roads, Anchors & sayls & 3 Compass & w[i]th oth[e]r nescesary things In the boat for its use, £40. Lumb[e]r, nott seen & fforgott £2." The appraisers were John Penticose and John Burrage, both of Charlestown. The former was a rope-maker, and held the office of constable in 1657. The latter was "clerk of the market" in 1658, and "ferryman" two years after.

#### ENSIGN NATHANIEL LAWRENCE,

The second son of John, sen., was born at Watertown, Oct. 15, 1639, and married at Sudbury, March 13, 1661, Sarah Morse of Dedham. They lived in Sudbury for some three years,<sup>1</sup> and then removed to Groton, where seven of their nine children were born. Nathaniel Lawrence resided for some twenty years on his father's homestead, at the south-west base of Gibbet hill. In 1683 or earlier he bought a farm on the "Mill-Highway," so called, now the road to Ayer, about three-quarters of a mile south of the centre of the town and near the "Indian Hills," and there made his home. This estate is now the residence of William Peabody. He was one of the original land-proprietors of Groton, his proportion being a ten-acre right; and he owned, besides, many parcels of land in different sections of the town, and later in Charlestown. He

<sup>1</sup> The family name does not appear in the Sudbury records previous to 1728.

was admitted a freeman May 15, 1672. It appears that he followed his father's trade; for we find in the Groton records, that, at a town-meeting in 1666, "Nathaniell Lawrenc and Samuells Woods [were] now agreed with to lay the planks upon the meeting [house] and to do them sufficiently, and they are to haue 4 s 6: d p 000 allowed them at the meeting rate." He was evidently an influential citizen, and possessed of ample means for those times. He was frequently elected to town office, and served four years as selectman, and at different times was chosen highway-surveyor, constable, and tithing-man. He likewise occupied various minor offices, of more or less dignity and importance, as fence-viewer, and overseer of swine, and was at one time a "commissioner to try small cases according to law."

In 1681 he was a member of a committee to give instructions to the selectmen; and the latter were thereupon charged by the committee, among other things, "too tack car that there be a [s]cooll or colleg of larning of children the inglish tung too Red." Two years later, he received four shillings from the town for a day's service in renewing the Chelmsford line. At a town-meeting held the twenty-fifth day of the fourth month, 1683, "it was agred upon and uotyd that the Toown wold chos a comity for tooee pllas [to place] the metin house;" and "insin Larance" was one of the men so chosen. He was also one of an important committee of three, selected on Christmas Day of the same year, to prove the right and title of the proprietors of Groton to their township.

Nathaniel Lawrence was appointed ensign of the military company of Groton, by authority of the





General Court, Oct. 15, 1673. Nearly seven years later a commission as ensign of the same company was issued to him. The original document, bearing the autograph signature of Gov. Bradstreet, is in the writer's possession. It reads as follows : —

The Governor & Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England.

To Nathaniel Lawrence Ensigne under the conduct of James Parker, Captaine. Whereas you are appointed Ensigne of a foote Company for his Maj<sup>ties</sup> service in the Towne of Groaten in the County of Midlesex in the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay, these are in his Maj<sup>ties</sup> name to auty-orize and require you to take into your Care and Conduct the sayd Company and diligently to Intend that service by leading and exercising your Inferior officers & souldjers in peace and warr. Comanding them to obey you as there Ensigne and you to observe & obey all such orders & direchons as you shall receive from yr Captn or other superior officer. In testimony whereof the seale of this Colony is heereunto affixed. Dated in Boston from the 19th of May, 1680.

By the Court, Edward Rawson secret.

(SEAL)

Simon Bradstreet Gounr.

Nathaniel Lawrence was chosen a deacon in the church about the year 1685; and thenceforth this dignified title is prefixed to his name, replacing the military one. The following extract was copied by the writer directly from a leaf of the oldest records of Groton, known as the "Indian Roll:"<sup>1</sup> —

"AUGUST. 12. 1689. Cap<sup>t</sup> James Parker Left Jonas Prescot Decon Lawranc Sarg Jonachan Sawtall Cornelos church John farnworth & Josiah Parker do Respond for the non Rezedents Rats to m<sup>r</sup> hobart for this yeares solory."

<sup>1</sup> In a proof copy of Butler's history of Groton, formerly the property of Amos Lawrence of Boston, is the following foot-note on p. 33: "I remember this roll as first found among the papers in our garret in 1807. It was deemed quite a curiosity.

AMOS LAWRENCE.

"BOSTON, March 15, 1848."





age he removed to Cambridge Farms, now Lexington, where his son John had long resided, and there died, April 14, 1724, in his eighty-fifth year. His first wife, Sarah, died at Groton, Aug. 29, 1683. He married about the year 1686 Sarah ——<sup>1</sup> of Groton, by whom he had three children. She survived him.

### JOSEPH LAWRENCE,

The fourth son of John of Wisset, Eng., was born in Watertown, May 30, 1643. He was an original proprietor of a five-acre right in Groton, and owned several other parcels of land. He was admitted a freeman when nearly twenty-nine years old, and was several times chosen a tithing-man, and once an overseer of swine. He married in 1671 Rebecca ——, and had one daughter. The following is from the "early records of Groton:" —

"att y<sup>e</sup> select mens meeting Decmbr 10: 1689 Joseph Lawranc [was] agreed with to swep y<sup>e</sup> meeting house hang out y<sup>e</sup> flag & carry water for Baptiseng children for one yere: & is to haue for y<sup>t</sup> saruis y<sup>e</sup> sum of 26 s. . . . . £1 . . 06 . . 00."

He lived near the site of the first meeting-house built in Groton, on the farm known as the

<sup>1</sup> It is difficult to ascertain the facts in regard to this second marriage. The county records give Hannah or Anna as the name of Nathaniel Lawrence's second wife; and in the family genealogy it is stated that he married Hannah Tarbell, Nov. 9, 1687. But on that very day his son John married a person of the same name. There is, however, abundant proof that the name of Nathaniel's second wife was Sarah. (See Appendix, No. 6.) Among the papers on file at the Middlesex Probate Office is one dated April, 1724, signed, "Sarey Lawrence widdo to Nathanael Lawrence, Late deced of Lexintown."

Shepley estate, a short distance north-east of the village.

The writer has some original papers signed "Joseph Lawrence, his marke." Copies of them will be found in the appendix.

He lived until after 1706.

### PELEG LAWRENCE,

The sixth son of John, sen., was born in Watertown, Jan. 10, 1647. He was probably the "son now neere upon age" (1665), mentioned in a petition already given. When twenty-one years old he married Elizabeth Morse, and had nine children. Many of their descendants are living in New England at the present day. His name first appears on the Groton records in 1669. In the following year he sold to his brother Nathaniel thirteen acres of upland lying upon Gibbet hill, formerly the property of his brother Joseph. (See Appendix, No. 4.)

Peleg and Nathaniel Lawrence were among the inhabitants of Groton who sought a temporary refuge in Concord when their homes were destroyed by the Indians in 1676.<sup>1</sup> The former served two years as selectman, and held some minor offices. He lived on the farm now owned by Samuel B. Marshall, on the great road to Boston, about a mile east of the later residence of his brother Nathaniel, elsewhere described. Peleg Lawrence died Feb. 14, 1692. The following are some of the articles mentioned in the inventory of his estate:—

<sup>1</sup> Butler's History of Groton, p. 86.



"Wearing cloaths; arms, ammunion and cutlash; Bookes; cart, ploughs, chaine, yoak, siths [scythes], houghs [hoes], spun-yarn, 2 steel traps, one swine."

Sum total of inventory, £140 4s. Dated March 13, 1693.

Early in the following year Deacon Nathaniel Lawrence, Jonathan Lawrence, Stephen Holden, John Perham, and Nathaniel Lawrence, jun., "or any three of them (Deacon Laurence being one)," were appointed "to make a Distribution of y<sup>e</sup> Houseing and Land & other Estate of Peleg Laurrance late of Groton, Deceased."

Susanna, the youngest child, married Joseph Williams of Plainfield, Conn., Oct. 13, 1710.

The following is taken from the land records of Groton:—

"Lands Layd out to Pelleg Lawrance on the west end of Stonny Brook Pond.

"(1.) Seaventy acres be it mor or Lesse Bounded as followeth [:] northerly by the Lands of Serg<sup>t</sup> Knop and towns comon westerly by the Lands of Jonas Prescott Southerly by y<sup>e</sup> Ridge of y<sup>e</sup> hill on the south sid[e] of the Brook that Runes out of Spectackle Pond into Stonny brook pond and easterly by Stonny brook pond. (2.) forty acres be it mor or Lesse Bounded as ffolloweth [:] easterly p<sup>ly</sup> by the Lands of Jonas Prescott westerly by the medow of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Parker northerly by the Pond at Stonney Brook and southerly by Nashoba Line and towns comon Land. . . . (5.) ffour acres and thre[e] quarters mor or Lesse upon which his house standeth formerly Layd out to thomas Boyden Bounded southward by the Countrey highway westward with the lands of matthias ffarnworth sen: northward by fferney medow eastward by the highway."

## SAMUEL LAWRENCE,

The oldest son of Peleg, was born in Groton, Oct. 16, 1671. He was appointed one of the administrators of his father's estate. It is probable that he removed to Connecticut with his younger brother Joseph about the year 1707, and that he made his home in the northern part of Plainfield,—a district which in the following year became the town of Killingly. His brother Joseph and his cousin Daniel, who went from Groton to this region at about the same time, settled in the southerly part of Plainfield, as mentioned later. Our information concerning Samuel Lawrence is derived chiefly from the following extract from the Middlesex Registry of Probate:—

“An Inventory of y<sup>e</sup> Goods Chattels and Credits of Samuel Lawrence of late a Resident in Killingsly in y<sup>e</sup> Collony of Connecticut who Deceased there in y<sup>e</sup> Month of May last Past and died Intestate. As it Was Taken by us the Subscribers being shown to us by Abigail Lawrence Relict & widow of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Deceased. Shee now being a resident in Sherborn in y<sup>e</sup> County of Midd<sup>x</sup>. in y<sup>e</sup> Province of y<sup>e</sup> Massachusetts as y<sup>e</sup> full of what and so much of her s<sup>d</sup> Husbands estate as hath come to her hand since his Deceass. April y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup>. 1712.”

“[Here follows a list of articles.]

“The Sum totall of this Inventory is

£87 . . . 16 . . . 0.

“Sherborn. April y<sup>e</sup> 14, 1712.”

## MAJOR ELEAZER LAWRENCE,

The second son of Peleg, was born in Groton, Feb. 28, 1674-5, and married, about the year 1698, Mary, the eldest daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Scripture, by whom he had ten children. He appears to have lived for some years in a house in Littleton, on the east side of the old stage-road to Concord and Boston, a very short distance south of the Stony-Brook Railroad. The cellar of this house still remains. He afterwards probably built and occupied the house now owned by George F. Proctor, a description of which is elsewhere given.

The following agreement is from the Littleton Proprietors' Book of Records:—

“To all Christian People before whome these presents shall Come Greeting Know yee y<sup>t</sup> we whose names are under written hauing obtaind y<sup>e</sup> General Courts grant of a certain tract or parcel of Land comonly cald Nashoba which was long since purchasd of y<sup>e</sup> Indian Proprietors of s<sup>d</sup> Land by our selves & predissors as may appear by our Sevrall Deeds. Do by these presents mutuall agree to throw all in Comon for y<sup>e</sup> good of y<sup>e</sup> Town, & so to draw our sevrall proportions according to our several interests & former agreements, & y<sup>t</sup> we do farther agree to admit as asosiates acording to former agreements, Paul Dudley Esq<sup>r</sup>, Addington Davenport Esq<sup>r</sup>, & Mr. John White all of Boston & also to reserve two or three lots where it is most convenient for y<sup>e</sup> ministry [.] scoole or such other Publick uses as may be thought Proper to be at y<sup>e</sup> disposition of y<sup>e</sup> major part of y<sup>e</sup> Propriety, also to bare our proportion of all y<sup>e</sup> charge y<sup>t</sup> hath or may arise on y<sup>e</sup> premises[.] To y<sup>e</sup> confirmation of which we bind & oblige our selves our heirs executors & administrators firmly

by these presents [.] in witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands & Seale this 15<sup>th</sup>. of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1714. Note that y<sup>e</sup> lands cald Poworses farm is not. by this instrument included.

{      Signd & seald in presence of us Dan <sup>l</sup> Laurance Sam <sup>l</sup> . Long                      }	[Here follow the signatures of eighteen other proprietors, including that of]
--	---

“Eliezer Laurance.”

The Daniel Lawrence who is named as a witness to the foregoing paper was probably the youngest son of Peleg.

Eleazer Lawrence was frequently chosen moderator at meetings of the proprietors and townspeople, and also served as selectman and constable. In the book of records above mentioned, we find the copy of a warrant, dated Groton, Nov. 11, 1729, signed by Benjamin Prescott, justice of the peace, and addressed to “Capt. Eleazer Laurance of Littleton, one of y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors of y<sup>e</sup> Common Lands In Littleton,” directing the latter to give due notification of a “meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors to be held at y<sup>e</sup> Dwelling House of Mr Samuel Hunt, Inholder in Littleton on Tuesday the 25th Day of November Currant at one of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> affternoon.” He received the title of major about 1734. A few citations from the town records are here given:—

“At a meeting of the Inhabitants of Littleton on the seuteenth of January 1724-5, [it was] voted that there should be a school-master.” “It was allso voated that a Commety be chosen to hier a School-master and Deacon Taylor and Leu<sup>tt</sup> Lawrance and nathan Powers was Chosen to hier a School-master for s<sup>d</sup> Town.”

At a town-meeting, Nov. 20, 1727, —

“Voted to Cap<sup>t</sup> Lawrance fourteen shillings for birds heads.”

Dec. 8, 1729, it was voted, —

“That the Town will hier a scull master that belongs to s<sup>d</sup> Town for to keep scoll for s<sup>d</sup> Town; uoted that Cap<sup>t</sup> Elezer Lawrence and decon caleb Taylor and Benjamin Hore be a Committey to hier one for s<sup>d</sup> Town in seasen.”

“Littleton, January y<sup>e</sup> 11th 1730-31. At a meeting of the freeholders & other Inhabitents of Littleton votable as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs and met on y<sup>e</sup> Day afores<sup>d</sup>, Cap<sup>t</sup> Eleaz<sup>r</sup> Lawriance [was chosen one of a committee] to Supplye y<sup>e</sup> pulpit with a minister or ministers for two months ensuing.”

At a town-meeting, March 5, 1743, he was chosen “to see that y<sup>e</sup> stream be kept open acording to Law for ketching of Fich.”

Major Eleazer Lawrence died at Pepperell, March 9, 1754, aged eighty years. His will was dated Dec. 29, 1749, and was probated Jan. 13, 1755. His wife and son, David, were appointed executors. The document bears the signature “Elaza Lawrance.”

#### DEACON PELEG LAWRENCE,

The oldest son of Eleazer, and grandson of Peleg, sen., was born in Groton, June 1, 1701. He was admitted a voter in Littleton in 1738,<sup>1</sup> but did not long reside

<sup>1</sup> Peleg Lawrence and other citizens of Groton, who lived in the south-east part of the township, petitioned the General Court to be set off with their estates to Littleton. Their petition was granted Jan. 4, 1738-9. The former boundary between Nashobah, afterwards Littleton, and Groton was then replaced by the present line between the two towns.

in that town. He removed to Groton West Parish, afterwards Pepperell, where he became actively interested in town and church affairs. He served as selectman of Groton three years, and was twice chosen deer-reeve.

In the church records we find the following : —

“Groton West Parish, Sep<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 6th 1743. At a meeting of s<sup>d</sup> Parish Held by Adjournment at the house of m<sup>r</sup> James Lawrance in s<sup>d</sup> Parish [;] When assembled . . . [it was] voted to hier Preeching from y<sup>e</sup> first Sabbath in Nov<sup>r</sup> till the Last Sabbath in April next. Voted and chose Jerem Laurence Peleg Laurence and Moses Woods a Com<sup>tee</sup> to hire Preaching in s<sup>d</sup> Parish.”

“At a ch<sup>h</sup> meeting at the meeting-House, Aug : 23 1754, voted to choose two Deacons, unanimously made choice of Brother Peleg Lawrence for the first.”

His letter of acceptance was read publicly in October following. The writer has a copy of this document. Deacon Peleg Lawrence died Sept. 4, 1757.

#### DR. EPHRAIM LAWRENCE

(1735–1809), the second son of Deacon Peleg, and great-grandson of Peleg, sen., was chosen a selectman of Pepperell in 1761; and during the twenty years next ensuing his name frequently appears on the records as a participant in the public affairs of the district, and later in those of the town. For many years he was a member of the standing committee of the church, and he was often appointed a delegate to attend ordinations and meetings of ecclesiastical councils. Dr. Ephraim Lawrence practised medicine in



Pepperell. On Jan. 11, 1773, he was chosen one of a committee of nine "to communicate the sentiments of this district to the committee of Boston." The report of the former committee, to which his signature was appended, sufficiently attests his patriotism in ante-Revolutionary days. In this connection we may remark, that, so far as we have been able to ascertain, very few of the descendants of John Lawrence of Wisset, Eng., who were living in those exciting times, ever manifested any sympathy with the Tory cause. One or two notable exceptions serve only to prove the rule.

#### CAPT. ASA LAWRENCE,

The youngest son of Deacon Peleg, and grandson of Major Eleazer, was born June 14, 1737, and was married at Littleton, July 27, 1757, to Abigail King, by the Rev. Daniel Rogers. They had ten children. Asa Lawrence probably passed his youth and the early years of his married life in Pepperell district, where his father had settled; but previous to the Revolution, he removed to Groton, where he lived in a house about one mile east of the village.<sup>1</sup> This was the birthplace of most of his children. As captain of one of the Groton companies of minute-men, he hastened with the men of his command to Cambridge, when the Lexington alarm was sounded, and later, with his men, fought at Bunker Hill. His name appears on the "Coat-Rolls" (Mass. Revol. Muster Rolls), which is evidence of eight months' service. He also took part

<sup>1</sup> Capt. Asa Lawrence and his wife were "received from Pepperell," Sept. 4, 1774. (Groton Church Records.)

in some of the earlier campaigns of the war. Capt. Asa Lawrence died Jan. 16, 1804.

### JONATHAN LAWRENCE

(1703-1789), the second son of Eleazer, and grandson of Peleg, sen., was twice married, and had a large family of children. We find mention of himself and of his brothers in the Littleton records, as follows:—

“January the 8th 1738; voted that peleg Lawrance, Jonathan Lawrance, Eleazer Lawrance, Samuel Lawrance and John Farwell, that y<sup>e</sup> Town Except [accept] the said persons to be inhabitants and voters of Said Town.”

We select one more item of interest relating to him:—

“Littleton, may y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup>. 1753. [It was] Proposed to y<sup>e</sup> Town wheather thay will give m<sup>r</sup> Jonathon Lawranc Twenty Shillings for Killing of three wolves that he has Killed y<sup>e</sup> year past & it was voted & it Past In y<sup>e</sup> affermitive.” “Then Proposed wheather the Town will give m<sup>r</sup> Jonathan Lawrance & m<sup>r</sup> Richard King Liberty to bu[i]ld a Pew over y<sup>e</sup> womens stairs in y<sup>e</sup> meeting House [.] voted and past In the negative.”

Jonathan Lawrence<sup>1</sup> was chosen a deacon of the church in 1763. He served also as a selectman and town treasurer of Littleton, and occupied various responsible positions. He died in 1789, *aet.* eighty-six.

<sup>1</sup> The name of Jonathan Lawrence of Littleton appears in a muster-roll of Capt. Aaron Bullard's company in Col. Samuel Bullard's regiment, Dec. 30, 1777. (Mass. Revol. Muster Rolls, vol. 20, p. 96.)



## JONATHAN LAWRENCE, Junior

(1728-1775), of Littleton, eldest child of the preceding, and great-grandson of Peleg, sen., enlisted as a soldier in 1748. On July 10 of that year, while with a small party *en route* between the towns of Northfield, Mass., and Ashuelot, N.H., they were attacked by French and Indians, in the vicinity of Fort Dummer. Two were killed, and nine, including Jonathan Lawrence, jun., were made captives.

“They lost every thing of value which they had with them, and were taken to Canada and sold to the French, who retained them until the 1st of October, when they were released and allowed to return home.”<sup>1</sup>

## CAPT. DAVID LAWRENCE,

The third son of Eleazer, and grandson of Peleg, sen., was born Dec. 26, 1705, and married Hannah Sawtell. He was a worthy citizen of Littleton. In 1755 he was chosen collector for the proprietors of the common lands. He had the rank and title of captain in the militia. He was admitted to full communion in the church Dec. 27, 1761. In 1779 Capt. David Lawrence was a member of a committee to provide for the families of the Continental soldiers. He died Sept. 28, 1790, aged eighty-four.

<sup>1</sup> History of Eastern Vermont. By Benjamin H. Hall. 1858. p. 50.

## DEACON DAVID LAWRENCE, Junior,

The only child of the preceding, and great-grandson of Peleg, sen., was born in Littleton in 1762. He was a man of scholarly tastes and of good education. He was quite prominent in town affairs, occupying at different times the positions of selectman, assessor, town clerk, constable, school-committee man, and "vendue master." He was also a justice of the peace, and a lieutenant in the militia. One of his descendants writes as follows : —

"My grandfather, Deacon David Lawrence of Littleton, grandson of Capt. Eleazer Lawrence, studied law at Concord, Mass. In the old home, beside the old clock in the sitting-room, was a bed which by day was put up and enclosed by doors. In this bed one night Deacon Lawrence was awakened by a call from without of a couple who had come to be married. He arose, dressed, and at the open window, he *within* and they *without*, performed the marriage ceremony ; and the twain departed, no longer *two*, but *one*. Grandfather once took charge of the services at *the* 'meeting-house,' where he was a deacon. A minister from Stow was expected, who did not come ; and Deacon Lawrence went into the pulpit, gave out the hymn, offered prayer, and read a sermon. He always conducted family worship in his own house. Grandfather was a courtly man, *very* hospitable, entertaining many distinguished persons at his home. He always wore his hair combed straight back off his forehead, and at one time always in a queue. Being once at the house of his brother-in-law (Dr. Daniel Adams), at Keene, N.H., the doctor teased him about the queue, and just before he was to set off for home, went behind him with a pair of sheep-shears, and severed *half* of the queue from his head, thus necessitating the giving up of the remainder.

“Grandfather was not tall, rather stout, full face, blue eyes, hair turned early,—a mark, I believe, belonging to the family. He was fond of books, and of wit and repartee. In his later years, however, from the condition of his health (torpid liver, etc.), he became more serious.”

Deacon David Lawrence died in Littleton, March 29, 1827, in the sixty-sixth year of his age.

The following letter was written by Deacon David Lawrence to his sister-in-law, Miss Lovey Adams of Lincoln, and is interesting from its quaint description of the conduct of an ardent lover.

LITTLETON, Feb. 26, 1803.

DEAR SISTER, — To an observing mind, the various occurrences of life, and the different characters which are displayed, afford constant instruction, and open a large field for inquiring into the motives, the designs, and the successes of men.

'Tis natural for a rational being to make observations on the conduct of others ; and I think we may thereby gain some very useful lessons, and furnish ourselves with some of the most valuable materials to form our own characters, and assist us in our journey through life. To gain any object in this life, which is worth gaining, requires all our attention in the pursuit. We are not formed to attend to many things at once, and the person who makes the attempt seldom attends to any thing as he ought. Hé is said to be a good student, whose whole attention is fixed on his studies. Whenever I see a man whose mind, and, as it were, his very soul is engaged in the pursuit of some desired object, I cannot but wish him success. . . .

Now, you must know I hate to be questioned and teased all the time with “Where is Lovey?” etc. There was one of these inquirers I could not but take notice of, and confess

I could not help pitying him ; for he appeared to be in rather a slender state of health, and I was in fear that his disappointment would have been too much for him. I found out that he had seen you somewhere in his travels, and he had taken a long journey to see you once more. I suppose he wished to see if your countenance was altered, or some such thing. I don't know what, not I. After he found you were not here, we could not persuade him to tarry, although it was evening ; and he had liked to have gone away and left his hat. He did leave his whip ; and when I gave it to him at the door, he turned the mistake very well, for he said he left it to "whip Lovey with."

Now, in the name of all that is comical, what should he wish to whip you for ? Have you ever injured him ? Or what is the matter ?

There seems to be some mystery. The man appeared to be agitated, and I fear you have injured him some way or other. He had been to Boston ; for it seems he is a trader, and was on his way home. He appeared to be an agreeable man and of good understanding, if he had been in his right mind : but he appeared rather deranged, and I believe he felt just as I have in former times ; that is, *all over at once, and then in spots again*.

Do explain all this to me.

He or somebody else will be here again in two or three weeks.

You must come back, Love.

Good-by. Patty sends love to you, and so does your brother,

LAWRENCE.





HELIOTYPE PRINTING CO.

BOSTON, MASS.

FROM A PAINTING BY H. I. BROWN.

ABOUT THE YEAR 1847.



THE "OLD LAWRENCE FARM" AND LANDS  
IN LITTLETON.

More than two hundred years ago Peleg Lawrence purchased from the Nashobah Indians a tract of land adjacent to the south-eastern boundary of old Groton township, and now in Littleton. He also owned other lands in the neighborhood. On April 1, 1717, Capt. Jonathan Prescott, "Prof of Phy[sick] & Chir[urgery]," Capt. Joseph Bulkley of Concord, and Isaac Powers, a committee of the Littleton proprietors, conveyed by a deed to Eleazer Lawrence one hundred and twenty-three acres of land in the north-west part of Littleton, of which eighty-eight acres were for a house-lot "whereon the saw-mill now stands."<sup>1</sup>

Again, in the year 1728, Eleazer Lawrence purchased of Robert Robbins all of the latter's real estate in Littleton; and twenty years afterwards he conveyed to his son, Capt. David Lawrence, the homestead, with one hundred and thirty acres of land, of which the north-western boundary was "Groton old line," — "always reserving to my own use and to the use and improvement of Mary my wife and to the Longest Liver of us the Improvement of the Dwelling I now live in and the Barn and all the Land that is now under my improvement." The above extracts have been selected, because, together with facts mentioned later, they seem to prove conclusively that the homestead just described is identical with the place in Littleton still known as the "old Lawrence Farm," which originally extended northerly as far as Forge Pond.

<sup>1</sup> Middlesex Registry of Deeds, vol. xix. p. 258.

Capt. David Lawrence lived in a house now standing, on what was formerly the stage-road to Keene, N.H., about a mile from the present Groton line, and *very near* the old boundary. This house is, without doubt, a very ancient structure, and its venerable aspect cannot fail to arrest the attention of the traveller. Mr. Boutwell, in a recent letter to the writer, says, —

“Peleg Lawrence’s lands near Forge and Spectacle Ponds were all around the old house which you visited. The record [1683] gives the Nashobah line as south of these lands. It is not improbable that Peleg Lawrence built the old house for his son Eleazer.”

During recent personal interviews with several descendants of Eleazer Lawrence, various interesting facts have been obtained.

Mrs. Martha Gray, the eldest child of Mrs. Lovey Adams (Lawrence) Clark,<sup>1</sup> who was a daughter of Deacon David Lawrence, jun., of Littleton, has a handsome hall clock, with a brass face, made by Nathaniel Mulliken of Lexington. This clock was in the old Littleton house, and had been standing there for many years, when Deacon David Lawrence, jun., who was married Dec. 23, 1790, brought home his bride (Patty Adams of Lincoln) to the old house, which he had inherited on his father’s death some three months before. Afterwards the house was

<sup>1</sup> Moses Clark, born at Warren, N.Y., Jan. 24, 1803, married, Oct. 7, 1824, Lovey Adams Lawrence, who was born at Littleton, July 31, 1795, and who died May 28, 1863. Their oldest child, Martha Lawrence Clark, was born at Boston, Mass., Oct. 23, 1825, and married, Nov. 20, 1867, David Bancroft Gray of Chicago, Ill. They reside in Roxbury District, Boston.



occupied by their eldest son, Mr. George Lawrence, and his family; and on his decease in 1848 it was sold to the Rev. Amasa Sanderson, pastor of the Baptist church in Littleton.

A few years subsequently it was purchased by Mr. George F. Proctor, the present owner. Mrs. Gray has a small oil painting representing the house as it appeared about the year 1847. At the present time the upper portion of the building is occupied as a dwelling, and the lower floor is used for storage purposes.

Very few of the descendants of Eleazer Lawrence now reside in Littleton. On a recent visit there the writer met the widow of George Lawrence, who was the oldest child of David, jun. Her maiden name was Rebecca Merriam, of Concord, Mass. Although eighty-seven years of age, and quite blind, her memory is still clear. Two of her children, Eliza Jane (Hartwell) and Charles M. Lawrence, live in Littleton.

#### LIEUT. ELEAZER LAWRENCE,

The fourth son of Major Eleazer, and grandson of Peleg, sen., was born about the year 1708, and was admitted a voter in Littleton in 1738. His name appears frequently on the town records. He served as constable and highway surveyor, and was a resident of Littleton as late as the year 1767. Not long after this date he removed to Westford, and there occupied the "Boutwell Brook place," so called. The brook from which the name of his home was derived, and near which it was situated, was once a chief

outlet of Forge Pond, but now only drains Boutwell's meadow, and flows into Stony Brook at Graniteville.<sup>1</sup>

In the year 1755, Eleazer Lawrence received from Gov. Shirley a lieutenant's commission. The original of the following letter is now (1888) in the possession of Miss Grace Lawrence of Forge Village, Mass., a great-granddaughter of Lieut. Eleazer, and daughter of Capt. David Prescott Lawrence, who died in 1885.

Boston June 20. 1755.

Sir, Having Commissionated you to be Lieutenant of a Company of thirty Volunteers, to be Constantly employed as a Scout,

You must take care to inlist into your Company none but able Bodied Effective men, and that they be well appointed as to Arms and Amunition and you must keep in Constant Duty of Scouting (saving what Time may be necessary for natural Refreshment) and you must consult and pursue the best measures you can for the Surprizing, captivating and destroying the Indian Enemy, but must kill none in Cold Blood or after you have made them Captive.

You are not so strictly obliged to keep the Rout between the Rivers of Connecticut and Merrimack but that upon advices of any Particular advantages likely to be had by your going out of these Lines for some little distance and Time, you have liberty to improve such advantages as they may Occur.

You must keep as exact a Journal of your Proceedings as your Circumstances will admit of, and see that your Ensign do the same, and that Copies thereof be returned into the Secretarys Office, to be laid before me once a Month if you have Opportunity to send them.

Your Friend and Servant

W. Shirley.

Lieutenant Eleazer Lawrence.

<sup>1</sup> Hodgman's History of Westford.

The "Journal" kept during the month of July, 1755, in accordance with the above instructions, is to be found in the Massachusetts Archives, Vol. 38 A, p. 172. A *verbatim* copy is here given : —

A Jorنال of our Scouting in His majestys Sarvise Betwe[e]n The Riever of Coneticut and marimack Begun the 3<sup>th</sup> Day of July A.D. 1755. Scout[e]d from Luningburge to Dochester Canada [Ashburnham, Mass.] Then to Ipswich Canada [Winchendon, Mass.] Scouted y<sup>e</sup> 4 Day Into the woods and then to Dochester y<sup>e</sup> 6 & 7<sup>th</sup> Days to New Ipswich and so to Dochester[,] y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Day Scouted to Ipswich Canada[,] y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> to Perquage [Athol, Mass.] y<sup>e</sup> 11 to Northfield[,] y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> to Winchester [N.H.] y<sup>e</sup> 13 to y<sup>e</sup> South of menadnack[,] y<sup>e</sup> 14 to Ipswich Canada[,] y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> to Dochester Canada[,] y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> Day Divided y<sup>e</sup> Scout & Scouted one Part to Rouly Canada [Rindge, N.H.] & the other part to Wacetateck. y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> to Dochester Canada and from thence to Ipswich Canada[,] Scouted out Northard into Ipswich Canada[,] y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>th</sup> Day to Perquage and Left Ten men There and y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>th</sup> Day Scouted Back to Ipswich Canada and y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>th</sup> Day to Dochester Canada[,] y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Scoutd Northard to Ipswich Canada[,] y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Scouted Northard and so to East End of Dochester Canada[,] y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> Divided the Scout and Scouted to Winchester and to Perquage y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup>. Sunday y<sup>e</sup> 28 scouted Northward in Dochester[,] y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> Scoutd Eastward in Dochester Canada[,] y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> Scoutd Southward in Dochester[,] y<sup>e</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> to Ipswich Canada and this Day we Discovered A Small Number of Tracks suposed to be Indian Tracks and followed four or five miles and found the bushes Cut up and bent Down In Sundrey Places as y<sup>e</sup> useull mannur of y<sup>e</sup> Indians is when they Traull [travel] upon the Descovrey &c.

Eleazer Lawrance

August y<sup>e</sup> first {  
1755. }

Commander of said Scoutt.

Lieut. Eleazer Lawrence was twice married, and had fourteen children. He died probably in 1788, as the inventory of his estate is dated Sept. 17 of that year.

#### SAMUEL LAWRENCE,

The youngest son of Major Eleazer, and grandson of Peleg, sen., was born May 2, 1714, and was admitted a voter in Littleton, Jan. 8, 1738. About three years afterwards he removed to Westford, where he lived for many years. After the death of his wife (Mary Hildreth) in 1788, he removed to Ashby, where his sons Samuel, jun., and Charles were living. Two other sons — Joseph and William — were residents of Littleton in the latter part of the Revolution; and "John Lawrence of Littleton" (probably his fourth son) was killed in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. (Mass. Revol. Muster-Rolls: "Coat-Rolls.")

Samuel Lawrence died in Ashby, probably in 1789.

#### JOSEPH LAWRENCE,

The fifth son of Peleg, was born in Groton, June 12, 1688. He removed about the year 1707 to Plainfield, in what is now Windham County, Conn. In the records of this town his name first appears under date of Jan. 28, 1708-9, when the town —

"Voated that joshua Wheeler and joseph Larrance shall be free from Town Rats for time to come as to their heads."

He sold his real estate in Groton, Jan. 10, 1710, as appears from deeds of that date. The following is an abstract of one of them: —

"Joseph Larrance of Plainfield in y<sup>e</sup> County of New-London within her Majesties Province of Connecticut in New-England" sells to Jonathan Boyden "one home-lot which hath a four acres right, bounded as followeth: South-erly by Land of Enosh Larrances, a Row of apple Trees w<sup>ch</sup> are Sweetings Standing in the Line, Easterly partly by Lands of Enosh Larrance & partly by Land of John Shiplie, northerly [by] the Highway which goeth down over halfe moon Bridge and Westerly upon y<sup>e</sup> Town Commons."

From the Plainfield "land-grants" we find that Benjamin Palmer deeded to Joseph Lawrence, yeoman, Nov. 20, 1712, a house-lot and fifty acres of land. In his new home he shortly became actively engaged in town business, and was chosen a field-driver in 1713, and later served as surveyor of highways, and as a member of the grand jury for the county of Windham. At a town-meeting, Dec. 13, 1720, it was —

"Voated that Joseph Lawrance Do take care of the Boyes and Gerls on sabath Dayes, to Restraine them from playing and profaining the sabath or Doing any Damage in the meating house by opening the windows or anywise Damnafying the Glass, and that the Boyes be seated in the two hind seats in the side Galleries of the mens side and the Gerls in the two hind seats on the womens side." Also voted "that the negroes [do sit] in the last or hind seats in the Body of seats, the male negrows behind the Boyes and the feemale negrows behind the Geirls." — *Plainfield Town Records*, vol. i., pp. 93-94.

At a meeting held Dec. 8, 1725, Joseph Lawrence was chosen one of a committee "to proportion and equalise y<sup>e</sup> Charge for The schooling y<sup>e</sup> children y<sup>e</sup>

last quarter of y<sup>e</sup> year past." On Feb. 23, 1727-8, Joseph Lawrence was chosen to receive the "penelty exacted as y<sup>e</sup> law directs on all the proprioters that Doe nott sett up soficant Bounds to each mans lot of fence."

From the "records of the Church of Christ in Plainfield," we find that Joseph Lawrence signed the church covenant Jan. 5, 1751, and the name of his wife appears in a list of "Females who renewed y covenant" on the same day.

He married Mary —, probably in 1713, and had a son Thomas, born Feb. 1, 1714-5, and a daughter Mary, born Jan. 27, 1727-8.

Joseph Lawrence died July 11, 1756. By his will, dated the previous day, the widow was appointed administratrix. (Plainfield District Probate records, Vol. C., p. 108.) A few items from the inventory of his estate are here given : —

"All wool coat 13 shillings; Brown Holland Jacot, 2s 6d; one pair of Leather Britches & Neebuckels 5s; 2 pair of toe Britches, 2s; 2 New toe shirts, 6s 6d; a sault mortar 1s; 2 psalm Books & other Small Books of Devenity, 4s; a Great Byble, 8s."

The inventory of the widow Mary Lawrence, dated Oct. 5, 1769, contains the following : —

"One checked Aproon 3s 6d; one old Aproon and checked handkerchief 1s; one velvet whood 2s 6d; a large Bowl 2s; a tray 1s 6d; Morter, Pessel & rolling-pin 17s 8d; Silver Bows for Specks 1s; a Cow that now Appears to be worth £3; but as she was Last Spring £2."



## THOMAS LAWRENCE,

A son of Joseph, and grandson of Peleg, sen., was born in Plainfield, Feb. 1, 1714-15, and held several minor town offices. He married Sarah —, and had three sons (Joseph, Thomas, and Josiah) and five daughters (Abigail, Experience, Relief, Sarah, and Priscilla). We quote from the town records: —

“At a Freemans meeting Legaly Warned in plainfield September y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Day, 1749 . . . Thomas Lawrence [and] Gideon Lawrence were admitted to Be Freeman [and] to vote in Town meetings and took y<sup>e</sup> Freemans oath.”

Thomas Lawrence died in 1754. The inventory of his estate, dated Nov. 16 of that year, contains these items: —

“To his Best Coat with Silver Buttons £17. 10s; to a Brown hollon shirt £2; to a pair of Brown Hollon Britches, £1, 10s to y<sup>e</sup> Best Bed, Bedsted, Cord & all y<sup>e</sup> furniture Belonging to it, £36. 19s; to y<sup>e</sup> Red Chist, Lock and Kee, £3, 10s. to a nother old Chist £1. 10s; to a Little speckled Box, Lock & Kee, £1, 15s; to one Porringer and Pewter gill pott, 15s; to a punch Bool, 10s; to an Earthen Jugg; to 2 pair of Knipers to pool teeth £2. to a small brass Kittle & Brass Skillit £3. Brandin Iron 30s; to y<sup>e</sup> Poridge-pot & old Iron Kittle £2. 5s; to an old Brass Inkhorn 5s; to 3 pails & a piggen £1, 7s; to a Cedar Keeler, 10s; to y<sup>e</sup> young Black Mair £95; to y<sup>e</sup> young spotted Mair £70; to y<sup>e</sup> old Brown Cow £20; to y<sup>e</sup> old Red Cow £20; to y<sup>e</sup> Brindle Cow £20; to a Desperate Debt to one Note of hand from Stephen Potter of New london for y<sup>e</sup> sum of £100. old Tenor, £100.

The following things for y<sup>e</sup> Families use : to 2 fat hogs £20 ; to a two advantage Heighfer £13 ; to 6 Bushels of Corn £6 ; to 2 Bushels of Rye, £3 ; to 10 Bushels of oath £5.

Eleazer Cady } Apprizers"  
James Bradford }

From *Plainfield District Probate Records*, Vol. A, p. 13.

During a recent visit to Plainfield, the writer was able to identify approximately the location of the farms where the Lawrences lived. They were in the southerly part of the township, in the broad level valley or plain from which the name of the district is derived. This valley is bounded on either side by ranges of hills dividing Plainfield from Sterling on the east, and from Canterbury on the west. Some of the descendants of Joseph and Daniel Lawrence continued to reside here until Revolutionary times ; but after the year 1793, the name does not appear on the town records.

### ENOSH LAWRENCE

(1649-1744), the seventh son of John of Wisset, Eng. was born in Watertown. He married the widow Ruth (Whitney) Shattuck,<sup>1</sup> March 6, 1676-7, and had four sons. Soon after his marriage he removed to Groton, and settled in the north part of the town. The exact location of his house is not now known. He served the town as a surveyor of highways, tithing-man and fence-viewer. He was also chosen a "hog constable" in 1691. In the year 1702 the Provincial authorities granted him immunity from taxation, and a

<sup>1</sup> Watertown Records.



pension of three pounds sterling yearly, on account of physical disability contracted in an encounter with the savages during King William's war. He lived to extreme old age.

The following description of a portion of his real estate is from the third volume of Groton Land Records:—

“The Lands of Enosh Lawrence: (1) His houslot Nineteen acres mor or Lesse Bounded east upon his own medow and on all other poynts by the high wayes[;] twelve and a half of this land he had of his Brother Zachary and Seavin acres he had of his Brother Joseph Lawrance.”

Enosh Lawrence had also twenty-five acres “near the Silver mine,” ten acres at Babbittasset, and three acres and a half in Half-Moon meadow.

#### NATHANIEL LAWRENCE,

The oldest son of Enosh, and grandson of John, sen., was born in Watertown, Feb. 21, 1677–8. He married Anna Scripture about the year 1701, and had a large family. In the Groton records, May 8, 1705, he is called “sergeant.” He was chosen constable in 1711, and afterwards served as surveyor of highways and tithingman. He died in Groton in 1765.

#### CAPT. JAMES LAWRENCE

(1704–1800), the second son of Nathaniel, and grandson of Enosh, was a resident of Groton West Parish, and was chosen one of the standing committee of the

parish at its first meeting in 1742. The second meeting was held at his house. In 1745 and 1746 he served as selectman. He attained the age of ninety-six years.

His eldest son, JAMES LAWRENCE, Jun., was first lieutenant of the eighth company in Col. Eleazer Brooks' regiment of Middlesex militia in 1776, and his youngest son, Capt. BENJAMIN LAWRENCE, was a selectman of Pepperell in 1786 and 1787.

#### ENSIGN ENOSH LAWRENCE,

The third son of Nathaniel, and grandson of Enosh, was born in Groton, Nov. 15, 1710, and married Sarah Stevens Jan. 29, 1733-4. He lived for a time, according to Mr. Butler, in what is now the village of East Pepperell, and his house was sometimes used as a place of worship before the erection of a church-building. In the year 1749 he removed to Mason, N.H.; and we learn from a report of a committee of the proprietors of that town, that in November, 1753, Enosh Lawrence had built a house there. In July next ensuing he was chosen one of a committee "to provide preaching as far as one hundred pounds old tenor goes." The first tax-list of Mason is dated Jan. 28, 1769, and contains the names of Ensign Enosh Lawrence, his sons Samuel, Richard, and Lieut. Enosh, jun., and also the name of Capt. Amos Lawrence of Groton, the father of Major Samuel. Col. William Lawrence, elder brother of Capt. Amos, had a house and barn and about ten acres of cleared land in Mason as early as the year 1753.<sup>1</sup> Enosh Lawrence died Sept. 28, 1778.

<sup>1</sup> Hill's History of Mason, N.H.

## ZECHARIAH, Junior, AND JEREMIAH,

Grandsons of Enosh Lawrence, sen., were residents of Groton West Parish, afterwards Pepperell, and were actively engaged in the public business of the town and church.<sup>1</sup> The former was elected "one of the hog-men" and pound-keeper, and the latter was "chosen to sustain the office of a Deacon," Jan. 11, 1747-8.

## LIEUT. BENJAMIN LAWRENCE, Junior

(1746-1824), a grandson of Nathaniel, and great-grandson of Enosh, was born in Groton, and in 1778 married Rebecca Woods of Pepperell. Ten years later he removed to Jaffrey, N.H., where he settled in the vicinity of Thorndike Pond, north-east of the village, on a homestead now or recently occupied by a great-grandson, Frederick J. Lawrence.

Lieut. Benjamin Lawrence was a soldier of the Revolution. He is described as a strong man, bodily and mentally, and a successful farmer. He built and owned one of the first cider-mills in the neighborhood. Before the construction of these mills, cider was made by pounding the apples in a wooden mortar, and pressing them in a cheese-press. His ten children all lived to mature age, and most of them had families. His second son Artemas was a blacksmith in Jaffrey, and a member of the company which built the Cheshire factory. His son Moody Lawrence was an "inn-keeper, auctioneer, sexton, and deputy-sheriff."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Butler's History, pp. 305 and 317.

<sup>2</sup> The above information concerning the Lawrences of Jaffrey, N.H., has been derived chiefly from a history of that town written by Daniel B. Cutter, M.D.

## CAPT. DANIEL LAWRENCE,

The second son of Enosh, was born in Groton, Mass., March 7, 1681, and married Sarah — about the year 1701. He and his wife "owned the baptismal covenant," Oct. 5, 1707, and shortly thereafter removed to Plainfield, Conn., with their sons, Daniel, jun., Isaac, and Jeremiah. A daughter Sarah was born Oct. 7, 1709. Mrs. Sarah Lawrence died Jan. 26, 1711-12, and he married Hannah Jewell Nov. 5, 1712, by whom he had two sons (Gideon and Nathaniel), and three daughters (Mary, Hannah, and Ruth). Mrs. Hannah Lawrence died after the year 1720, and Daniel Lawrence married for his third wife Sarah Williams, March 4, 1724-5, and had two sons (John and Asa), and five daughters (Elizabeth, Annie, Hester, Ellis, and Eunice). At a town-meeting in Plainfield, Dec. 27, 1709, Daniel Lawrence was chosen a "sirvayor of highways," and "Liberty was granted to him to voat in Town meetings." On Sept. 22, 1720, he was a member of a committee chosen —

"To seat the meating house as followeth, viz: To place y<sup>e</sup> Antiens men according to there age and there wives equall; and seat the Rest according to there estats and according to what they have paid to the buelding sd house."

Daniel Lawrence served as selectman of Plainfield fifteen years, his first term of service being in 1716. In 1723 he was a deputy from Plainfield to the "General Assembly at Hartford" (Colonial records of Connecticut, vol. vi.). In 1729 he was charged with

the duty of removing "all Incumbrances on y<sup>e</sup> publick Rhoads In this Town." He was called "sergeant" at this time, and in 1735 he received the title of "captain." On Jan. 4 he purchased from the State of Connecticut a right or share in the new township of Canaan (see Appendix, No. 17), and sold it at a profit to David Whitney some weeks afterwards. In the Plainfield Land Grants is recorded the sale, Dec. 4, 1738, of a piece of land by Daniel Lawrence (jun.) of Canaan to Capt. Daniel Lawrence of Plainfield. It is certain that the latter did not permanently settle in Canaan until several years after the removal thither of his sons Daniel, jun., and Isaac. In December, 1740, Capt. Lawrence was chosen moderator of a town-meeting in Plainfield, and in the same month of the next year he was chosen a surveyor of highways there. Probably in the latter part of 1742 he removed to Canaan, and in January, 1743, he was admitted a member of the First Church in that town, together with his wife and daughter Elizabeth. On Dec. 4, 1744, he was admitted a "Town Inhabitant" of Canaan, and continued to reside there for many years. He died May 8, 1777, aged ninety-six years.

#### DANIEL LAWRENCE, Junior,

The eldest son of Capt. Daniel, and grandson of Enosh, was born in Groton, Mass., April 22, 1702, and married in Plainfield, Conn., May 31, 1725, Rachel Kingsbury. The fruits of this marriage were three sons (Nathaniel, Gideon, and Rufus) and five daughters (Rachel, Sibyl, Sarah, Lois, and Esther). Daniel Lawrence, jun., was

accorded the privilege of voting at town-meetings in Plainfield in the year 1730. The records of the proprietors of Canaan show that he bought an allotment of land in that township at the State auction sale at New London, Jan. 4, 1738, paying therefor £145.1s. sterling; and from the land records of Plainfield it appears that he left that town and went to Canaan the same year. It is very probable that he accompanied his brother Isaac and family in the month of May. He was certainly one of the early settlers of Canaan; and in May, 1739, he was one of several citizens who were intrusted by the proprietors with £50. "to pay for preaching the Gospel to the people of Canaan in the present year." At the first town-meeting there of which any record exists, held in January, 1740, the following business was transacted:—

"Voted at y<sup>e</sup> same meeting Josiah Mather[,] Benjamin Kellogg and Daniel Lawrence are Chosen a Comity to agree with John hart to fit his house conven[i]ent to meet in on the Lords Day."

At a meeting held Dec. 2 of the same year, it was voted—

"That Christopher Dutcher & Augustian Bryan & Daniel Lawrence shall be survayers of the Highways and sworn."

Again, on March 13, 1741, it was—

"Also now voated that their shall be a meating hous bu[i]lt for the worship of god[,] 35 foot in length and 30 foot in wedth the posts for said hous 18 foot in Length. Also then voated that Cap<sup>t</sup> David Whitney and Samuell Prindell



and Jeams Beebe & Daniel Lawrence & Silas Belding shall be a Commity to take Care to see s<sup>d</sup> meating hous Bu[i]lt and finished and that upon the cost and charge of said town."

Daniel Lawrence, jun., was chosen selectman in December of the same year, and was nine times re-elected previous to 1767. He also served a term as constable and collector. At a town-meeting, Jan. 22, 1744, of which "Left Daniel Lawrence" was moderator, he was chosen, with others, a committee "to Lease out our parsonage right of Land in this town."

Daniel Lawrence, jun., died in Sheffield, Mass., Jan. 27, 1790, aged eighty-seven years.

#### CAPT. ISAAC LAWRENCE,

The second son of Capt. Daniel, and grandson of Enosh, was born in Groton, Mass., Feb. 25, 1704-5, and was baptized there Nov. 25, 1705, by the Rev. John Hancock of Lexington.

While yet a young child, he went with his parents to Plainfield, Conn. He married there, Dec. 19, 1727, Lydia Hewitt; and four of their eleven children (Jonas, Azubah, Stephen, and Isaac, jun.) were born in that town. He was granted the liberty of voting in town affairs Dec. 3, 1730, and the same year was chosen a surveyor of highways. At the New-London auction sale, Jan. 4, 1738, elsewhere mentioned, he purchased three shares, or rights, in the township of Canaan. In the late spring of that year he left Plainfield and journeyed westward, taking with him the members of

his family and their household effects, and travelling in a covered wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen and a horse. The distance traversed was about eighty miles, and the last third of their route lay through the primeval forest.

On arriving, on the second day of June, at Canaan, which was to them the "land of promise," they encamped for a few days and nights, their wagon meanwhile serving as a house.

"Soon afterwards he dug a hole in the side of a hill, and with some crotches, poles, and boards made a temporary shelter, half under ground, in which they lived till the next spring."<sup>1</sup> He then built a house, which was their home for some twelve years. "In 1751 he built the house which has long been known as the Lawrence Tavern, which he occupied till about 1786." Both Isaac Lawrence and his brother Daniel were large investors in real estate, and in the early land records of Canaan are found copies of numerous deeds in which their names appear.

On May 2, 1739, Isaac was appointed collector of the first tax voted by the proprietors. At a town-meeting held in January, 1740, it was voted that —

"For ye future till May next ye meeting on ye Lords Day shall be one Day at ye house of Isaac Lawrences and the other Day at ye house of Abraham Holinbides or Jacob Bacons as the peopel shall agree with them."

Again, Oct. 13, 1748, Isaac Lawrence was appointed one of a committee "to git glass for ye meeting hous

<sup>1</sup> Genealogy of the Ancestors and Posterity of Isaac Lawrence. By Frederick S. Pease. Albany, N.Y., 1852.



and to put up ye same and to bring in their accounts to ye Town."

On the 28th of the same month, he was commissioned ensign of the "Train Band of Canaan," and was afterward promoted to the rank of captain in the militia. He served the town as selectman seventeen years. He was also a deputy to the General Assembly of Connecticut in 1765. Capt. Isaac Lawrence was one of the founders of the second church of Canaan, which was formed in 1769 in the north-eastern part of the township. He was a member of the first standing committee appointed when the new church was organized.

Mrs. Lydia Lawrence died Nov. 14, 1765; and he married, late in life, Mrs. Amy Whitney, who survived him. He died Dec. 2, 1793, aged eighty-eight years.

Many of his descendants continue to reside in Canaan.

From the records of the Probate Court for the District of Sharon, Conn., it appears that the will of Capt. Isaac Lawrence was proved Jan. 11, 1794; and John Adams and Josiah Lawrence were appointed executors. In addition to numerous bequests of specific articles, he gave his widow the use of certain real estate. The bulk of his property was divided among his children and grandchildren. Of the latter, the four younger sons of his son Jonas are mentioned. Their names were Abel, Josiah, Billy (whose name was afterwards changed to William), and Consider.

## ISAAC LAWRENCE, Junior,

The third son of Isaac, and grandson of Daniel, sen., was born in Plainfield, Conn., March 5, 1737. In his infancy his parents removed to Canaan, Conn., and there, March 18, 1760, he married Mary Brown. Just previous to the Revolutionary war, he went with his family to Hinesburg, Chittenden County, Vt.

On the commencement of hostilities, he left Vermont, and during the war probably lived again at Canaan, where his children, all but one, were born; but, the war being ended, he again took up his residence in Hinesburg.

In the Vermont Historical Gazetteer (October, 1867) we find the following:—

“The only settlers known to have resided in Hinesburg previous to the Revolution were Isaac Lawrence from Canaan, Conn., and Abner Chaffee. The family of Isaac Lawrence endured some of the severest hardships, so well known to the first inhabitants of Vermont. Mrs. Lawrence has said that she lived ten months without seeing the face of any other woman; and that for a while one season the only food used by the family was dried pumpkins, with the little mouldy flour the children scraped from the inside of a barrel that had been wet.”

In 1793 Isaac Lawrence removed to Shefford County, Province of Quebec, about twenty-five miles north of the Vermont border.

## ISAAC LAWRENCE,

A son of John of Wisset, Eng., was born in Watertown about the year 1658, and married Abigail Bellows April 19, 1682. They probably lived in Groton for a while. Afterwards they removed to Norwich, Conn. The early church records in that town contain the following :—

“Isaac Lawrence, a son of John Lawrence of Watertown and Groton, publickly owned ye Covenant of Grace at the First Church of Norwich, Conn. in 1700 and was Received into full Communion in 1702.”

He was one of the seven original members forming (Dec. 10, 1723) the Third Ecclesiastical Society of Norwich.<sup>1</sup> His death occurred April 19, 1731, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife Abigail died Sept. 13, 1726, aged sixty-three years.<sup>2</sup>

## LIEUT. JONATHAN LAWRENCE

(1657–1729), the tenth son of John Lawrence, sen., was a resident of Groton, and held various town offices, including that of selectman for two years. He enlisted as a soldier, and was a sergeant in 1699.<sup>3</sup> In 1702 he

<sup>1</sup> History of Norwich, Conn. By Miss F. M. Caulkins.

<sup>2</sup> For genealogical data relating to the descendants of Isaac Lawrence, see New England Hist. Gen. Register, vol. xl. 1886.

<sup>3</sup> It is quite possible that his military experience began in his youth during King Philip's war; for in the Mass. Revol. Muster Rolls, vol. lxviii. p. 79, we find the name of Jonathan Lawrence in “a Lyst of the souldiers Impresed for the Country Service in the foot Company in Cambridge on the North Side of the riuer,” dated Nov. 26, 1675. He is supposed to have married a Cambridge lady in 1677, and his name does not appear on the Groton records previous to 1680.

was appointed lieutenant; and his commission, with the signature of Gov. Dudley, is now the property of Amory A. Lawrence, Esq. The document reads as follows: —

“JOSEPH DUDLEY ESQ<sup>r</sup>: Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over Her Ma.<sup>ty</sup>s Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England in America. To JONATHAN LAWRENCE GENT Greeting. By virtue of the power and authority in and by Her Ma.<sup>ty</sup>s Royal Commission to me granted. I do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be Lieutenant of the Foot Company of Militia in y<sup>e</sup> Town of Groton in y<sup>e</sup> County of Midd<sup>x</sup>. whereof Jonas Prescot Gent is Captain. You are therefore carefully and diligently to perform the duty of a Lieutenant by ordering and exercising the s<sup>d</sup>. Company in arms both Inferiour officers and souldiers, And to keep them in good order and Discipline. Hereby Commanding them to obey you as their Lieutenant And your selfe to observe and follow such orders and Directions as you shall receive from your s<sup>d</sup>. Captain or other your Superiour Officers according to the rules and Discipline of War [illegible] to the Trust reposed in you. Given under my hand and seal at armes at Boston the Twenty eighth day of August In the first year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith &c. annoq: Domini 1702.

SEAL.

J DUDLEY

By his Excell<sup>cy</sup>s, Com<sup>and</sup>  
Is<sup>a</sup>. Addington secry.”

In the lower right-hand corner of the commission is the following: —

"BROOKLINE, March 1, 1875.

To Amory Appleton Laurence: This Commission was given by Gov. Dudley to Jonathan Lawrence of Groton, and he was your great, great, great, great, great uncle.

Your affectionate father,

AMOS A. LAWRENCE."

Lieut. Jonathan Lawrence was serving in a garrison in Groton in 1711. In his will he made liberal bequests to the church and town. From his inventory, dated Dec. 23, 1729, we quote these items:—

"Dark Coloured wolen coat £1, 15s; one [cor]Duroy coat, £3; Gray all wolen Jacott £1; Another old Jacott 6s; Britches 13s; shirts 9s; puter 14s; Tinn pots 9d; andirons, tongs and fire shouel, Tramil and hooks, £1, 4s; Iron poot, 15s; Iron skilletts, 3s; one Gunn, £1."

#### NATHANIEL LAWRENCE, Junior

(1661–1736), the oldest child of Deacon Nathaniel, was three times married,<sup>1</sup> and lived in Groton probably untill after 1696. He afterwards resided in Charlestown and Medford. He was one of the executors of his father's will.

Bond says in his history of Watertown:—

"There is much obscurity and much left to conjecture about his family. He is supposed to be the Nathaniel Lawrence, a bricklayer, of Medford in 1724."

<sup>1</sup> It is certain that he was first married as early as 1695, and that his first wife's name was Hannah or Anna.

The inventory of his estate seems to merit a place here by reason of its unique spelling: —

“The Inuentrery of y<sup>e</sup> Estate of Nath<sup>l</sup> Lawrance, late of Medford, Decesed, taken by us the Subscribers and aprised.

Wobrone [Woburn] July the 11: 1737.

To a feather bed and furntuer . . .	£9 . .	S7 . .	d9
to Puter . . . . .	2 . .	4 . .	0
to Books . . . . .	1 . .	0 . .	0
to 3 Plear [pillow] Casis & to two napkins & one table clouth . . . . .	1 . .	0 . .	0
to a Smole Brase Kitell . . . . .	0 . .	10 . .	0
to tramell & tongs . . . . .	0 . .	13 . .	0
to a Brass candell stick . . . . .	0 . .	6 . .	0
to a Duzen of wooden plates and arthen whear [ware]. . . . .	0 . .	4 . .	6
to a male peelion [pillion] & old sadele . . . . .	0 . .	8 . .	0
to a old gun . . . . .	1 . .	10 . .	0
to a feching [fishing] line . . . . .	0 . .	3 . .	0
to two old whells [wheels] . . . . .	0 . .	6 . .	0
to a old feeffe [fife?] . . . . .	0 . .	2 . .	0
to wooden whear . . . . .	0 . .	6 . .	0
to a old hamer . . . . .	0 . .	1 . .	6
to two old poudering tubs & one tube and pale . . . . .	0 . .	7 . .	0

---

£18 . . S8 . . d9

Rail Estate lands lying in Attellbury  
by Information being forty or fifty  
acres woath . . . . .

85

---

£103 . . 0 . . 0

Jonathan Hall }  
John Willis } Com.<sup>ett.</sup>  
Joseph Tufts }

## JOHN LAWRENCE,

The second son of Nathaniel, and grandson of John of Wisset, Eng., was born in Groton, July 29, 1667. His grandfather, John, had died early in the same month, and his father was then living at the paternal homestead near Gibbet Hill. The first notice of interest which we have concerning this John Lawrence is the record of his marriage in Groton, Nov. 9, 1687, to Hannah Tarbell, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Gershom Hobart.

In June, 1691, his name appears as one of eleven citizens who dissented from a vote of the town in regard to the terms of payment of the minister's salary, "viz : aighty pounds pur year and so yearly," one-fourth part in money, and the other three parts in provisions, and forty cords of wood. In 1693, John Lawrence removed his residence to that portion of Cambridge known as the "Farms," which had shortly before been constituted a distinct parish or precinct, and which twenty years later was incorporated as the town of Lexington. The estate purchased by him was situated on the north-western border of the precinct, on the edge of Tophet Swamp, so called, near what was then the Billerica line. The locality was at that time called "the world's end." It is easy to imagine the motives which may have influenced Nathaniel and John Lawrence in leaving Groton at about this time. King William's war had begun, and the frontier towns were again exposed to the attacks of the cruel savages.



It was most natural, therefore, that our ancestors should wish to provide for their families homes more secure. The wonder is rather that so many remained where danger constantly threatened. The privations and hardships of early Colonial and Provincial days tended to develop the rugged traits of the Anglo-Saxon character, promoting self-reliance. As in all pioneer enterprises, their circumstances often required them to fill new and hitherto unfamiliar positions.

John Lawrence, who came from Groton to Cambridge Farms at the age of twenty-five, could have had but meagre facilities for obtaining an education, for it does not appear certain that there was any school in the former place until after this time. But he had sterling qualities, as his future career showed; and among his gifts we may reckon versatility, for we find him described in various deeds and legal papers, as a planter, husbandman, weaver, yeoman, blacksmith, and farmer. From the assessors' books we learn that he paid in 1694 a tax of 6*s.* 11*d.*; this being his proportion of the "Rate made for the payment of the minester, to be payd half mony and the other half being twenty pounds in comon pay as mony." In the same year he also contributed 17*s.* 4*d.* towards the expense of building the minister's house. He was the father of ten children, of whom eight were born in Lexington. His family register<sup>1</sup> is in the writer's possession. Yellow with age and dilapidated, it appears to have been written on the fly-leaf of a large Bible; and the handwriting is his own, as appears on comparing it with his signature at the Middlesex probate office. In the records of the First Parish,

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix, No. 9.



under date of Feb. 1, 1699, being the second year of the ministry of the Rev. John Hancock, is this entry: "Receaved than Into the Communion of this church John Lawrence and his wife." The Lexington Historical Society, at this writing just two years old, has in its possession a "Muster-Roll of the Company in Her Majesties service under the command of William Read, Captain, viz; foot Souldiers." This roll has the names of Seth Wayman of Woburn, lieutenant; and John Lawrence of Cambridge, "Clark;" and thirty-three non-commissioned officers and men, the greater number hailing from Cambridge Farms, and the remainder from Woburn, Concord, Billerica, and Watertown. This company was in service for one week from April 12. The year is not given, but we may fix it approximately. It was prior to the incorporation of Lexington, and during Queen Anne's reign (1702-14). Sergt. Joseph Bowman, whose name is fourth on the list, was an ensign in 1711. The roll therefore antedates that year. It appears to have been filled out by the clerk, John Lawrence, who received a sergeant's pay, nine shillings, for his week's service. A foot-note gives the information that the company "subsisted themselves."

Although the precinct of Cambridge Farms was never actually attacked by Indians, the early settlers were at times apprehensive of such an event, and had adopted precautionary measures. Capt. Read's company had probably been for this reason on a reconnoitring expedition on the frontier.

In an original manuscript in the library of Harvard College are recorded the transactions of a committee

of five persons appointed by the General Court, Dec. 7, 1719, to allot the land in two new towns, which were afterwards incorporated as Townsend and Lunenburg. This committee met at Concord, Mass., on May 11, 1720, "and accordingly Proceeded to Grant out s<sup>d</sup> Land to y<sup>e</sup> Pe[r]sons whose Names are under written on y<sup>e</sup> other Sides." Then follows a list of the names of the original proprietors of the "North Town," or Townsend, and among them we find that of "John Lawrence of Lexington."<sup>1</sup>

Some *verbatim* extracts from the town records are here given : —

"Att a Publique metting a[t] Cambridge ffarms : March : y<sup>e</sup> : 2<sup>d</sup> : 1701<sup>2</sup> : There was Chosen to the ofice of a constable : Thomas Bloggitte :

Robert Meriam :

Jn<sup>o</sup> : Laurenc :

& Isacke stearns

| ware chosen assesers :

"It was allso votted that Joseph Lock : Jn<sup>o</sup> Laurence : John Mason & Jonathan Poullter : be requested to take sum pruddent Care that the Children & youth may nott play at metting : and thareby Profane the Lords Day :"

"Att a Publique metting of the Inhabitants of Cambridge ffarms march : y<sup>e</sup> : 4<sup>th</sup> 1705<sup>6</sup> there was Chosen to the office of a constabl

John Lawrenc :

" march : : y<sup>e</sup> : 6th : 1710

"It was allso agr[e]d y<sup>t</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> : Laurence & Jn<sup>o</sup> poullter take care of the claye ground next them belonging to the Precinct : that none of it be Caryed out of precinct :"

"Att a Publique metting of thise Precinct march the third : 1711<sup>12</sup> :

<sup>1</sup> Sawtelle's History of Townsend.

it was votted that ensigne Simonds & m<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> : Laurence be a committee to Inquier who want high waies In this Precinct : and to make Inquierey aboutt the Range waies and iff anye be wanting then to petetion the town for them and if the town neglect to hear and determin the thinge that is most resonable : in that afaier then to procecutte the matter to the Courte or Courts: till it be efected : and the precinct are ag[r]eed to reimburse the monye that thaye shall spend In procecutting of the same :”

“Att a Publique Metting at Lexington March ye 30<sup>th</sup> 1713 :

“It was further agreed and votted Thomas Bloggitt John Poullter & John Larance be a Comittee to take care of ye claye Ground at Shaws Farme to find out ye Bounds of it and to cover it from being Caried out of Town either in Clay or Brickses.”

In recorded deeds of about this date, “Shaw’s Ffarme” is bounded as follows : “West by John Lawrence, north-west by ye churches ffarm, north-east by Joseph Tidd and south by Samuel Lock’s medow and Benjamin Simonds.” This location is on the northerly edge of Tophet Swamp.

“At a meeting of the Inhabitants of Lexington orderly convened to acte in town affairs the 19 : of may : 1716, Voted that : mr John Larrans mr Joseph Brown and mr Daniel Hoar Be a committee to provid a schoolmaster for the Town as ye Law directs.”

A few days before the choice of the above committee, the town had voted that “all scollers that cume to school [are] to pai too pens per week for reeding and 3 pens per week for righting and siphering.” At the first session of the general court under the Provincial charter in 1692, an Act had been passed providing that

families neglecting for one year to provide for the support of a schoolmaster should pay a fine of ten pounds sterling.

“At a meeting of the Inhabitants of Lexington orderly convened to act In Town affairs the : 25 of march : 1716 : 17 mr John Lauranc Being Chosen modarator : then was Chosen for selectmen : L<sup>t</sup> Francis Bowman Capt Joseph Eastebrook Joseph Bowman Joseph Fassett and mr John Lawranc :”

“At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Select men of Lexington june 24 : 1717. Thomas Paul appeared before y<sup>e</sup> Select men ; being in want of necessary subsistance, & desired sum Releif, y<sup>e</sup> Select men ordered John Lawrance one of [y<sup>e</sup>] Select men ; to Releive him until furdur order.”

“At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen of Lexington held July 21 : 1717, then agreed that Clerk Lawrance’s wife, and Ephraim Winship’s wife keep schools from y<sup>e</sup> day of y<sup>e</sup> date hereof until y<sup>e</sup> last day of October next following : and if they have not Scholers sufficient as to number to amount to 5 shillings a week, at 3 pence a Scholer a week, Dureing the term above sd ; then y<sup>e</sup> Town to make up what shall be wanting of y<sup>e</sup> 5 shillings a week as above expressed out of Treasury thereof ; provided y<sup>e</sup> sd select men do not see cause to demolish sd schoole before sd term be expired.”

The wife of John Lawrence was the second child of Thomas Tarbell, jun., of Groton, and was born June 10, 1670. It is probable that she was a woman of superior attainments for those times, and doubtless her elder sons received in their youth only such instruction as she could give them. For when they were children, there were no schools at Cambridge Farms. But that they were well grounded by her in things essential, we may infer from their subsequent fitness for positions of responsibility.

The first schoolhouse in Lexington was built on the Common in 1714.<sup>1</sup> Then, to accommodate the children living at a distance from the centre, the two schools above-mentioned were established in the outskirts.

In those days there was no uniform standard of spelling, and correspondence was not freely indulged in. All writing-paper had to be imported from the mother country, and was therefore expensive, and the only means of sending letters was by special messenger. In the country towns there were but very few books, and but little opportunity for the cultivation of a literary taste.<sup>2</sup> In Boston, however, there was a public library as early as the year 1673, and in 1686 there were no less than eight book-stores in the town. The farmers obtained intelligence from abroad chiefly through "The Boston News-Letter," which was the only newspaper published in America during Queen Anne's reign, and had no rival until the appearance of "The Boston Gazette" in 1719.<sup>3</sup>

"At a meeting of the select men of Lexington november 7-1720. Then agreed with m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrenc Sr to take Rachel Carley and keep her a while upon tryal and he shall haue satesfaction for his Trouble."

From an original deed now before the writer, dated Sept. 28, 1722, it appears that Francis Bowman, Deacon Samuel Stone, and Samuel Lock, all of Lexington, were empowered "to make sale of y<sup>e</sup> Remaining part of y<sup>e</sup> Portion bequeathed by William Carly, late of

<sup>1</sup> Hudson's History of Lexington.

<sup>2</sup> Concord in the Colonial Period. By C. H. Walcott.

<sup>3</sup> Memorial History of Boston, vol. ii. p. 388.

Lexington, deceased, to his daughter Rachel Carley (a person *non compos mentis*) lying in Lands in Lexington afores<sup>d</sup>;" and the said lands were accordingly sold to "Robert Fisk of s<sup>d</sup>: town, Physician."

"At a Meeting of freeholders & other Inhabitants of Lexington Orderly Convened on y<sup>e</sup> 10 of march 171<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in order to y<sup>e</sup> choosing of town officers [&c;] Imprimis then chose Joseph Phassett, moderator; Joseph Estabrooke; Benj. Wellenton; Joseph Phassett, John Laurance; & Thomas Mirriam select men."

"At a meeting of the select men of Lexington January 30 1720-21

allowed mr John Lawrence sen. 01. 00. 00. for his trouble for keeping sd Rachel Carley 11 or 12 weeks, as soon as it can be obtained out of her estate."

"Att a meeting of the select men of Lexington March 26-1722, ordered the clerk to pass a Bill of 1 - 00 - 00 - on mr Carleys exect<sup>r</sup> to pay m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrence for keeping Rachel Carley 12 weeks in 1720. sd Lawrence appearing before the select men and sd he had lost the bill he had of the select men january 30 1720-21. The afore sd Bill was passed that evening."

"Att a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> select men of Lexington aprel 30. 1722, Then desired Capt Bowman to se[e] what care ought to be taken about the Town Stock of powder and allowed M<sup>r</sup> Whitmore five shilings toward plank that John Lawrence had to mend the bridg ouer Vine Brooke to be paid out of the Town treasury."

As early as the year 1700, the residents at "the Farms" had petitioned the town of Cambridge, "that that part of the public stock of ammunition which is supposed to belong to our share, may be kept in the Parish."



"At a meting of ye freeholders & other Inhabitants of ye Town of Lexington Being duly qualified & orderly convened together on the 4 day of march 1722/3 in order to chuse Town offecers for the year ensuing.

"(1) voted Mr Joseph Fassett moderator. then vouted to haue 5 select men (1) mr Thomas Bloggett (2) Benja Wellington (3) m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrence (4) m<sup>r</sup> Jose. Brown (5) mr Thomas miriam."

"att a meeting of the freeholders [etc.] on the 13 day of may 1723.

"(5) vouted to chuse a com<sup>tee</sup> about ye school.

"(6) vouted to have 3 of sd com<sup>tee</sup> (1) m<sup>r</sup> John Laurence (2) mr Joseph Loring (3) Capt. Joseph Bowman. also vouted not to grant John Lawrences & Richard Orms request for the improuement of sum of ye minesterall land."

"Att a meeting of ye ffreholders [etc.] on ye 7: of march 1725/6 in order to ye choosing of Town Officers, &c. voted to chuse five select men (1) chose m<sup>r</sup> Benj. Wellington (2) mr Joseph ffassett (3) m<sup>r</sup> Joseph Brown (4) m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrance (5) Lt John munroe."

"Att a meeting of the select men of Lexington march the 11 - 1725/6, agreed that m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrence shall find meal for Thom Paul & his wife until our next meeting and to receive his pay out of the Town Treasury."

"Att a meeting of the select men of Lexington march th[e] 28 1726, then appointed m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrence & m<sup>r</sup> Joseph Fassett to goe as preambelators on biliraca Line."

The line between Billerica and Cambridge Farms, or Lexington, was about one mile long, and ran in a north-easterly direction, and a little to the westward of the present boundary of Bedford. The residence of Fasset was almost on the line, and that of Lawrence close by. Bedford was incorporated in 1729. This new township was formed by taking the north-east part of Concord and the south part of Billerica.



"Att a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> select men of Lexington January 30-1726/7, [it was voted to pay]

"allso to mr John Lawrence 2-01-04 for meal malt &c for paul. ss d

"allso to mr Lawrence & mr fassett 1-6 each for renewing the line between bilerica & Lexington."

"att a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> select men of Lexington febr. 27-1726/7 agreed that m<sup>r</sup> Lawrence mr fassett & Benja<sup>a</sup> Wellington three of y<sup>e</sup> select men shall goe to Daniel Smith on the second day of march next and try to agree with him or make som offers for recompenc for land where a town way was laid threw his land in 1726."

"March 2, 1726/7 mr Lawrence mr ffassett & Benja<sup>a</sup> Wellington went to Daniell Smithe and offered him ten pounds in full for recompence for sd Town way going threw his land."

"att a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Lexington duly qualified and orderly assembled to gether at y<sup>e</sup> schoole house in sd town on march 6, 1726-7 in order to chuse Town offecers for the year ensuing as the law directs &c. uoted to haue five select men then uoted for y<sup>e</sup> select men (1) fran. Bowman Esq. (2) Capt Joseph Bowman (3) Benja<sup>a</sup> Wellington (4) m<sup>r</sup> Joseph ffassett (5) m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrence."

"att a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> select men of Lexington febr 5, 1727/8. 1 s d

"allso alowed m<sup>r</sup> Lawrences acct being 3-11-08 for meal [and] money laid out &c for Thom. Paul and allowed Sam<sup>l</sup> Lawrence 4-14-00 for eleuen cord of wood for paul & six pound of pork." 1 s d

SAMUEL LAWRENCE was the fifth son of John, and was born in Lexington July 9, 1700. He married Elizabeth —, and had a daughter Ruth, born Jan. 21, and baptized Feb. 20, 1726. He enlisted as a

soldier in 1725, and served during Dummer's war. He was living in 1742, when his father's will was made.

"att a meeting of the select men of Lexington march 18, 1728/9 then appointed persons to renew the bounds round the Town uiz/ mr John Lawrence mr Joseph Fassett ju on Bilerica line."

"December 31, 1729. then past a bill to the constabl to pay mr John Lawrenc four shiling for work don for father paul & 1 - 6<sup>s d</sup> for preambelating last year between Bilerica & Lexington."

"Att a meeting of the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Lexington duly qualified & orderly assembled at the schoole hous in said Town on munday the sixth day of march 1731<sup>2</sup> in order to chuse Town offecers &c - uoted to haue five select men. uoted (1) capt Joseph Bowman the first select man (2) capt Joseph Estabrooke (3) ens. John Mason (4) m<sup>r</sup> Thomas miriam (5) m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrence."

"At a meeting of ye select men of Lexington may y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup>: 1732.

"At y<sup>e</sup> Request of m<sup>r</sup> John Larrance Resolved to meet at s<sup>d</sup> Larrances house on munday y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>: of may currant at sun an hour high at night: in order to streighten y<sup>e</sup> way sumthing more Latte[r]ly Pricked out for Nath<sup>l</sup> Trask."

"At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Select men of Lexington y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1732: at y<sup>e</sup> house of mr Jn<sup>o</sup>: Larrance, In order to a further view & makeing y<sup>e</sup> way Pricked out for s<sup>d</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Trask through s<sup>d</sup> Larrances Land more Dirict & Streight: Acordingly Begining at a stake & stones in y<sup>e</sup> line between s<sup>d</sup> Larrance, & Trask streight to a grey oak tree marked with stones at y<sup>e</sup> Root, and from thence streight to a stake and stones by a Post in s<sup>d</sup> Larrances fence: so as s<sup>d</sup> Lar-

rances orchard fence now stands, to a black oak marked at y<sup>e</sup> Corner of s<sup>d</sup> Larrances orchard by y<sup>e</sup> Town way."

"At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Select men January 28<sup>th</sup>: 1744/5; Examined & Allowed y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>tees</sup> Report Relating to y<sup>e</sup> womens Schools Set up in y<sup>e</sup> out Skirts of y<sup>e</sup> Town: viz: for Schooling at Mr John Lawrances, ten weeks £5 . . s.0 . . d.0. Likewise at Mr Nehemiah Abbots, ten weeks £5 . . s.0 . . d.0. Note y<sup>t</sup> all y<sup>e</sup> aboue s<sup>d</sup> sums are to be Understood in Old tenor."

The following extracts from the records of the First Parish of Lexington were obtained through the courtesy of the pastor, the Rev. C. A. Staples: —

"20th February, 1715. Chose Deacon Mirriam, Samuel Stone and John Lawrence messengers for the ordination at Groton."

(The Rev. Caleb Trowbridge was ordained March 2, 1715).

Benjamin Bate confessed to the church that, —

"through the temptations of the Devill and his own corrupt heart, he had been led into many sins, particularly sabbath-breaking, which is a leading sin to other hainous sins; therefore being easily taken by the Devill at his will, fell into the sin of killing John Lawrence's cow y<sup>e</sup> night before y<sup>e</sup> last, leaving y<sup>e</sup> ax sticking in its body."

(The deed was committed on Sunday, June 17, 1716).

John Lawrence was an influential citizen of Lexington, and was held in much esteem by his fellow-townsmen. He administered faithfully the trusts





THE OLD LIVERY STABLE, 1882



committed to him, and transmitted to his descendants an untarnished name. He died in Lexington, March 12, 1746, in the eightieth year of his age.<sup>1</sup>

### THE "OLD LAWRENCE PLACE"

On the Bedford road in Lexington deserves more than a passing mention, on account of its family associations; and we will therefore endeavor here briefly to sketch its history. It was purchased by John Lawrence, son of Nathaniel, when, in the year 1693, he removed from Groton to Lexington. Here most of his children were born, among them Capt. Amos Lawrence. In 1737 John Lawrence conveyed the estate to his son Jonathan, then a resident of Framingham, "partly in consideration of the good affection which he felt for him, and partly in consideration of £700 in good bills of credit." In the days of the Revolution the farm was owned and occupied by the oldest son of Jonathan, Bezaleel Lawrence, of whom we have elsewhere made mention. Then, in the early part of the present century, another Jonathan, the youngest child of Bezaleel, lived on the ancestral estate. He died in 1835, and five years afterwards his widow, Polly (Reed) Lawrence, sold the property to Hiram Reed; and it has since been owned successively by Samuel B. Pierce, Abraham C. Mace, and Patrick Ryan. At the present time the old, house, a modest gable-roofed structure, though still standing, is in a somewhat dilapidated condition.

<sup>1</sup> Some large pewter platters, marked "J. L.," and supposed to have belonged to John Lawrence of Lexington, are now the property of Francis W. Lawrence of Brookline, Mass.

Some years ago the writer had it successfully photographed.<sup>1</sup>

The late Francis Wyman of Lexington, who was born in 1789, and who attained the age of ninety-six years, lived in his boyhood on the Reed estate, adjoining the Lawrence farm. He well remembered seeing Bezaleel Lawrence ride on horseback to church on Sundays, with his wife seated on a pillion behind him. In 1700 the Lawrences' nearest neighbors were the Fassetts and Dunkleys, and, a few years after, the Trasks. In 1800 the neighbors on the east side were Nathan Reed and Joshua Simonds, and on the west side the Page family in Bedford.

In the appendix (No. 12) will be found a copy of the deed by which the farm was conveyed in 1693 by William Johnson to "John Laurence, weaver of Groton." It was situated then as now, on the border of Tophet Swamp, but the locality has long since ceased to be known as "ye world's end."

### JOHN LAWRENCE, Junior,

Eldest child of John of Lexington, and grandson of Deacon Nathaniel, was born in Groton, June 9, 1689, and was therefore about five years of age when his father removed to Cambridge Farms. He married, May 18, 1710, Elizabeth, fifth child of Deacon Samuel and Dorcas (Jones) Stone of Lexington. Her father was known as "Samuel Stone *East*," to distinguish him from his cousin of the same name, who was called

<sup>1</sup> Acknowledgments are due the Rev. Edw. G. Porter of Lexington for assistance in locating this estate.



"Samuel Stone *West*."<sup>1</sup> Although John Lawrence, jun., was married in Lexington, and appears to have retained his connection with the church there for many years, his residence was within the limits of Woburn (now Burlington<sup>2</sup>), where he became an active participant in town affairs. The eight children of John and Elizabeth Lawrence were baptized in Lexington. He died Jan. 22, 1752, aged sixty-three years.

#### THOMAS LAWRENCE,

The second son of John of Lexington, and grandson of Deacon Nathaniel (1691-1729), was born in Groton, but came to Cambridge Farms in early childhood. He married in 1713 Prudence —, and was living in Groton again as early as 1715, as on Oct. 9 of that year he and his wife were admitted to the church there, and their daughter Prudence was baptized the same day. A great-grandson, Deacon Curtis Lawrence, born in 1799, recently died in Groton.

Thomas Lawrence was by trade a cordwainer. He was twice chosen a tithing-man, and held the responsible office of town treasurer from 1723 to 1728. The inventory of his estate is dated January, 1729, and contains these items: —

"To Bed, Beding Bed steds and tabel Lining £22-01-6. to Putter & Bras & other Nessasariss in y<sup>e</sup> house £11-14-4. to a saddle Briddles and Pillion £3-07-00. to Barriels and Cyder £8-19-00. to a Negro Boy £80. to horses £30, to sheep and swine £80."

<sup>1</sup> Hudson's History of Lexington.

<sup>2</sup> The Second Precinct of Woburn was incorporated as the town of Burlington, Feb. 28, 1799.

**CAPT. THOMAS LAWRENCE**

(1720-1758), son of the preceding, and grandson of John of Lexington, was a man of gigantic size and great personal prowess. He was frequently in military service, and was killed by the Indians near Lake George, in July, 1758.<sup>1</sup> He had six toes on each foot; and this physical peculiarity of having supplementary toes or fingers, and sometimes both, has been inherited by several of his descendants. Within the past year (1888), a child of the fifth generation has been born with this unusual number of members. A descendant of Capt. Lawrence now owns the lasts on which his boots and shoes were made, as no last of ordinary pattern would answer the purpose. It is said that the Indians who killed him, on observing this peculiar malformation, were filled with superstitious awe, and regretted their act. Capt. Thomas Lawrence was a resident of Pepperell district. In civil life he served two years as deer-reeve.

**THOMAS LAWRENCE**

(1757-1822), the youngest son of Capt. Thomas and great-grandson of John of Lexington, enlisted in the Continental army when quite young, and was wounded at the battle of Bunker Hill. From some of his grandchildren and from certain aged residents of Pepperell, we have learned a few facts

<sup>1</sup> See Butler's History, pp. 326-328; and Groton during the Indian Wars, by Dr. S. A. Green, p. 157 and *seq.*

concerning him. He inherited from his father a large frame, — a physical attribute observed in some of his descendants at the present time. On muster days he appeared in the rôle of a fifer, and his title of “major” was probably earned by service as a regimental “fife-major.” He taught singing-schools in Pepperell and Brookline, N.H., and was himself a good singer and a member of the church choir. He lived about a mile south-west of Pepperell meeting-house, and some thirty rods south of the present residence of the Rev. Dr. Babbidge, on a road leading from Federal Street to South Pepperell. The place is now occupied by Mr. John E. Blood.

Another THOMAS LAWRENCE, a son of Nathaniel, and grandson of Enosh, was living in Pepperell during the latter half of the last century. His oldest son, of the same name, was of about the same age as “Major” Lawrence; and as the latter had a son Thomas S. and a grandson Thomas G., it is not surprising that a confusion of names should sometimes result. The name of Thomas Lawrence of Pepperell appears in a “Muster Roole of Capt. John Nutting[’s] Company of Minett men in Col<sup>o</sup>. W<sup>m</sup> Prescott[’s] Reg<sup>t</sup> who march<sup>d</sup> from Pepperill y<sup>e</sup> 19 of April, 1775.”<sup>1</sup> We find the name again in “Jas. Hosley’s muster-roll of Vollunteers who turned out of the Towns of Townshend, Pepperrell and Ashby, and marched with him to the assistance of Major General Gates agreeable to a resolve of the General Court upon September 22, 1777.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mass. Revol. Muster-Rolls, vol. xiii. p. 22.

<sup>2</sup> Do. vol. xix. p. 177.

This company served for about six weeks, and formed a part of the army which compelled Gen. Burgoyne to surrender on the 17th of October. Among its rank and file as volunteers, were Col. William Prescott and Major Henry Woods. Corporal Joseph Lawrence, a son of Joseph and great-grandson of Enosh, was also a member of Capt. Hosley's company.

In the earlier history of Pepperell, almost every citizen had a distinctive nickname. Of six contemporary individuals named "Thomas Lawrence," five were designated as "Whalebone Tom," "Major Tom," "Stuttering Tom," "Hoop'ole Tom," and "Six-toed Tom." Daniel H. Lawrence<sup>1</sup> was familiarly known as "Whalebone Daniel." Some of his descendants are now living in Pepperell. One of them, Sumner P. Lawrence, is a prominent citizen, and was at one time a member of the Legislature. In regard to the meaning of some of the above nicknames, "hoop'ole" was a contraction for "hoop-pole," and probably had reference to the trade of a cooper or a cutter of poles for hoops; "whalebone" was used to convey the idea of stiffness, or toughness, as a physical or moral trait.

### COL. WILLIAM LAWRENCE,

The fourth son of John of Lexington, was born at Cambridge Farms, Aug. 11, 1697, and went to Groton probably in 1721.<sup>2</sup> His name first appears in the town

<sup>1</sup> "Daniel Hall Lawrence, son to Thomas Lawrence Junr. and Mehitable his wife, born Sept. 7. 1780."—*Pepperell Records*.

<sup>2</sup> On June 27, 1721, Shebual Hobart sold to William Lawrence, blacksmith, a certain parcel of upland and lowland in Groton, "with a Dwelling-house and a barn thereon, containing eight acres and bounded southwardly partly by land

records in the following year. On June 27, 1722, he married Susanna, daughter of Jonas Prescott. In the month of March ensuing, he and his wife were admitted to the church; and the same year he enlisted as a soldier, and saw considerable active service at different times. He was made captain in 1734 or thereabouts, major about the year 1740, and colonel in 1754. His residence was situated on the former site of Liberty Hall, on the corner of Main Street and the road leading to the railway station.

For a long period he was perhaps the most prominent citizen of Groton. He served twelve years as selectman, fifteen as an assessor, and represented the district in the general court ten years. He was repeatedly chosen moderator of town and parish meetings, and was appointed a special justice of the court of Common Pleas for Middlesex County. A man of superior natural endowments, he appears to have had a special aptitude for public business, and his services were sought by his fellow-townsmen in all matters requiring the exercise of good judgment and *discretion*, that quality which has been described as "the perfection of reason and a guide to win all the duties of life."<sup>1</sup>

From the records of the proprietors of Townsend it appears that in the year 1735 William Lawrence received an allotment of one hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the eastern side of Massaquantanapas

of James Nutting and partly by land of John Nutting, northerly by the town's common land called the Burying place. westwardly by the highway as the fenc[e] now stands and on all other points by the highway."—*Middlesex Registry of Deeds*, fol. 21, p. 432.

<sup>1</sup> Addison.

Great Hill, now known as Tanapas Hill, in Brookline, N.H.

A few lines from Mr. I. B. Sawtelle's "History of Townsend" are here quoted:—

"William Lawrence not only had a considerable part of his father's land (John Lawrence of Lexington) in 'North Town,' but he bought and owned extensive tracts in the northern part of the town. No one man, except John Stevens and Daniel Taylor, possessed so many acres. His name appears first in the list of grantees of the town of Mason, N.H. (granted 1749), where he owned nine of the two hundred farms into which the town was surveyed and allotted. He served on almost every important committee appointed by the North Town proprietors."

In June, 1758, the Massachusetts General Court granted him three hundred and fifty-three acres of land lying "south of Pontoosuck, on the Housatonuck River."

Col. William Lawrence died May 19, 1764.

#### WILLIAM LAWRENCE,

The oldest child of Col. William, and grandson of John of Lexington, was born in Groton, May 7, 1723. He was the first one of the descendants of John Lawrence of Wisset, Eng., who entered Harvard College. Being admitted in July, 1739, he graduated from that institution in 1743, and, studying for the ministry, was licensed to preach Jan. 7, 1746. At this time he was a member of the First Church in Cambridge. Two years later he began to preach in Lincoln as a candidate.



In the early church records of that town is found the following : —

“At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Ch.<sup>h</sup> & qualified voters in Concord, Lexington and Weston, Second Precinct on y<sup>e</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> of April 1748 M<sup>r</sup> Joshua Brooks [was] Chosen Moderator ; Voted by S.<sup>d</sup> Ch.<sup>h</sup> & Prec[inct] That they Choose but one young Candidate for y<sup>e</sup> ministry to Preach with them in Probation. At y<sup>e</sup> same Time Voted That M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Lawrence is the man Desired to Preach Four Sabbaths & y<sup>e</sup> Fast on s<sup>d</sup> Probation in or[der] For Settlement in y<sup>e</sup> ministry among them.”

At a meeting of the church and precinct holden May 18, 1748, Mr. William Lawrence was chosen their minister, and the same day he sent the following response : —

“Gentlemen ; Whereas you have been pleased to give me an invitation to settle in the gospel ministry amongst you, I take this opportunity to return you thanks for your respect shown me therein, and to signify to you my willingness to accept of the said invitation. So wishing that grace, mercy and peace may be multiplied to you, and that I may be enabled to perform faithfully the office of a gospel minister, and greatly advance your best interest, I subscribe myself your faithful friend and humble servant,

Wm Lawrence.”

His ordination took place on Dec. 7 of the same year. On Feb. 7, 1750-1, he married Love Adams, a daughter of one of the members of his church. Her father, John Adams, was a great-grandson of Henry Adams, a native of Devonshire, Eng., who settled in Quincy, Mass., and was the ancestor of the eminent branch of the Adams family still resident in that place.



John Adams married in 1722 Love Minott of Concord, and died Oct. 25, 1725, leaving two children, John and Love. The Rev. William Lawrence was the first pastor of the church at Lincoln, and continued in office for thirty-one years. During this long period he was frequently called to officiate in other places. He took part in the exercises at the ordination of the Rev. Jonas Clarke at Lexington, Nov. 5, 1755; and a few years after he "gave the charge" at the installation of the Rev. Joseph Brown at Winchendon. He also preached the sermon at the ordination of the Rev. Stephen Farrar at New Ipswich, N.H., Oct. 22, 1760.<sup>1</sup> His library contained many valuable books, a list of which is given in the inventory of his estate. The Rev. William Lawrence died April 11, 1780. His widow and nine children survived him. Mrs. Love (Adams) Lawrence died Jan. 3, 1820, in her ninety-sixth year.

#### LOVEY LAWRENCE,

The second child of the Rev. William Lawrence, was "born at Lincoln, Massachusetts Bay, April 18th, 1754."<sup>2</sup> She married in Lincoln, Nov. 23, 1774,<sup>3</sup> Dr. Joseph Adams of Townsend. He was an uncompromising loyalist, and was born in Lincoln, Jan. 30, 1749-50.<sup>4</sup> During the Revolutionary war he visited

<sup>1</sup> The sermon preached on this occasion was published. It was "printed by S. Kneeland, in Queen Street, Boston, N.E. MDCCLXI."

<sup>2</sup> Family Register, Liskeard, Eng.

<sup>3</sup> The date of this marriage has been usually given as Sept. 4, 1770. This is incorrect. The banns were published Sept. 18, 1774.

<sup>4</sup> For further information concerning Dr. Joseph Adams, see Sawtelle's History of Townsend.





DOCTOR JOSEPH ADAMS.



MRS. EVE ADAMS, ELDEST DAUGHTER.

FROM PAINTINGS BY OATES IN 1789, BELONGING TO T. D. ROCK, ESQ., GRANVILLE PARK, LEWISHAM.

LONDON. S. E., KENT. ENGLAND.

England, and decided to make his home at Liskeard in Cornwall. His wife, accompanied by her brother Abel, then a young child, soon after joined him there. Dr. Adams served for a time as surgeon in the British navy. While on board H. M. S. "Pegasus," Jan. 8, 1780, with Admiral Sir George Brydges Rodney's fleet, he took part in an action against the Spaniards off Cape Finisterre, and had the pleasure of seeing eleven out of the twenty-three Spanish sail strike their colors to the "Pegasus." He practised medicine at Liskeard, where he formed a partnership with Mr. Palk, a Devonshire gentleman,<sup>1</sup> and later one with his brother-in-law, Dr. Abel Lawrence.

The following letter, written by Dr. Joseph Adams to his brother Dr. Daniel Adams of Keene, N.H., is of interest from its allusions to the political situation in Europe at that time. It will be remembered that Bonaparte was gaining a succession of victories in Italy, and soon afterwards seriously contemplated an invasion of England.

Liskeard. Cornwall. 18<sup>th</sup> April, 1797.

My Dear good Brother, I received your kind and affectionate Letter, dated Keene, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 1796 the latter end of Nov<sup>r</sup> last and last February I sent a Bundle of Letters to New England directed to Brother Nathan in which I enclosed one to you. The time is fast approaching when I fear a dreadful Convulsion will materially affect the Peace & Interest of this Country, as it has a Sister Kingdom's, whose power at this time seems to preponderate every other and threatens to give laws to all Europe.

<sup>1</sup> Letter from Miss Emmeline S. Ede, Feb. 2, 1888.

I fully intended to have settled my affairs here and revisited my friends in New England in June next, but the Continuance of the present War bars my Intentions. As I cannot dispose of my property here to any advantage nor engage for a Passage with safety until we are blessed with Peace. I am highly pleased with your acct. of America and very much gratified with the kind invitation of my friends to become a Citizen in a land of Peace and Plenty. Whenever you hear that Peace is reestablished in this Country, you may depend upon my returning to America with all my family and till then I cannot with propriety and safety quit the place. Mr. Lawrence and myself in a Partnership earn a deal of Money, but the high price of Provisions and enormous Taxes render it impossible to lay by a Guinea for a *wet day*. I have often thought that one hundred acres of Ground upon or near some navigable River in America would be better than a Business in this Country of two Guineas *Per Diem*.

You will be so good as to acquaint all my dear Relations and friends with my real Intentions and thank them all for their kind wishes. Please to give my kind love to your Wife and Children with a thousand Kisses and let them know that Uncle Joseph, now in England, means to pay them a visit as soon as the present War may be at an end. If I may tell you the truth respecting the present situation of affairs in Europe, all Italy, the Netherlands, Holland, and a great part of Germany are under the Dominion of France.

Your sister, Mrs Lawrence and three Nieces join in wishing you and your dear family everything that's good, with

Your very affectionate Brother

Joseph Adams.

Dr. Adams died Feb. 3, 1803. His wife survived him many years, and died in 1837.







DR. ABEL LAWRENCE.

FROM A PAINTING BELONGING TO DR. J. H. LAWRENCE,  
LISKEARD. CORNWALL, ENGLAND.



Their children were: (1) LOVEY, who was born in Lincoln, Sept. 30, 1775, and died there June 10, 1776.<sup>1</sup> (2) LOVEY LAWRENCE, born in Liskeard, in 1788, and who died, unmarried, Feb. 8, 1870. (3) MARY, born in 1790, who married William Tickell, a solicitor, of Liskeard. She died without issue, Aug. 14, 1876. (4) SUSANNA LAWRENCE, born in 1792. She married Lieut. Robert Ede, R.N., who died in 1834. She died Dec. 5, 1879. They had nine children, of whom only three survived; namely, —

(1) EMMELINE SUSAN EDE (now living unmarried). (2) JOSEPH ADAMS EDE, who died in 1842. (3) CAROLINE EMMA EDE, who married Thomas Dennis Rock, a merchant of London, Eng. They have seven children, and reside in Granville Park, Lewisham, Kent, S.E.

#### DR. ABEL LAWRENCE,

The youngest child of the Rev. William Lawrence, was born in Lincoln, Mass., Aug. 23, 1771, and went to live in Liskeard, Eng., when quite young. Subsequently he studied medicine with his brother-in-law, Dr. Joseph Adams, and afterward practised in Liskeard. About the year 1801, he married Mary Hodge of St. German's, Cornwall, who died Dec. 2, 1860, surviving her husband half a century. He died Dec. 1, 1810. They had six children: <sup>2</sup>—

(I.) THOMAS HODGE LAWRENCE, who was born Jan. 5, 1802, and married July 16, 1832, Mary Collins, who

<sup>1</sup> Lincoln Records.

<sup>2</sup> The genealogy of the Lawrences of Cornwall, hitherto unpublished, is here given.

died July 10, 1844. He was a druggist in Liskeard, where he died Aug. 5, 1857. They had four children : (1) CATHARINE MARY LAWRENCE, born May 22, 1833. (2) THOMAS ABEL LAWRENCE, born Aug. 31, 1834 (living in America, a bachelor). (3) JOSEPH COLLINS LAWRENCE, born March 22, 1837. Married in Bombay, India, Eliza Grant. He died in 1881. (4) ELIZABETH LOVEY LAWRENCE, born May 22, 1839.

CATHARINE MARY LAWRENCE, daughter of Thomas Hodge Lawrence, married July 6, 1858, Henry Caunter, solicitor, of Liskeard, and has five children ; namely, (1) Ethel, born April 30, 1859, who married Dec. 16, 1886, William Hewetson, lieutenant R.N. (2) RICHARD LAWRENCE, born Oct. 4, 1860. He studied medicine, and has the following degrees : L.R.C.P. and L.R.C.S. (Edin.) and L.C.P.S. (Glasgow). (3) MABEL, born Sept. 18, 1861, who married Jan. 29, 1887, Charles Herbert Rock, of the firm of T. Dennis Rock & Co., London. (4) HENRY LYDE, born Feb. 2, 1865, solicitor, Liskeard. (5) KATE, born Nov. 19, 1868.

ELIZABETH LOVEY LAWRENCE, the youngest child of Thomas Hodge Lawrence, married July 24, 1866, the Rev. Walter Alfred Prideaux, now vicar of St. Matthew's, Stonehouse, Devonshire. They have three children.

(II.) DR. JOSEPH ADAMS LAWRENCE, the second son of Dr. Abel Lawrence, was born Jan. 23, 1803. He was a surgeon in her Majesty's service, and died in India, a bachelor, in middle life.

(III.) MARY HODGE LAWRENCE, the third child, was born March 9, 1804. She died, unmarried, June 9, 1878.

(IV.) ELIZABETH LOVEY LAWRENCE, sister of the preceding, was born in Liskeard, July 25, 1805, and

married Edward Lyne, solicitor, of Wadebridge, Cornwall. They had one child; namely, MARY ELIZABETH, who was born Aug. 1, 1837, and married (first) in 1857 Francis Tamblyn Nicholas, surgeon, of Liskeard, who died June 19, 1863, leaving one child, MARION, who was born May 1, 1859, and is now the wife of the Rev. Richard Augustin Chudleigh, Rector of West Parley, Dorsetshire. They have three children.

MARY ELIZABETH LYNE (NICHOLAS) married (secondly) April 23, 1868, Richard Stephens Lyne, of H. M. Customs, London. They have five children.

(V.) Dr. JOHN HODGE LAWRENCE, the fifth child of Dr. Abel Lawrence, was born in Liskeard, March 2, 1808. He has an attractive residence on Manley Terrace in the outskirts of his native town. He has served on the medical staff of the British army in India, and was at one time surgeon of the Second Battalion of Cornish Rifles. He has also held the office of "Provincial Grand Senior Warden, Freemasons." After attaining a merited prominence in his profession, he retired from practice several years ago. He was never married.

(VI.) SUSANNA LAWRENCE, sister of the preceding, was born July 25, 1810, and still resides in Liskeard.

Mr. Henry Caunter, a son-in-law of Thomas Hodge Lawrence, writes as follows concerning the Cornwall branch of the family : —

"None of them have suffered martyrdom for holding heterodox opinions, nor have they, like Mr. O'Brien, been deprived of their small-clothes in their country's cause; nor even made a noise in the world by inventing a patent pill."

"Along the cool, sequestered vale of life,  
They kept the noiseless tenor of their way."

## CAPT. ABEL LAWRENCE

(1730-1770), the second son of Col. William, and grandson of John of Lexington, married Nov. 14, 1751, Mary Buckley of Groton, and had four children. He was town clerk four years, and for a like period a member of the general court. He was also chosen a selectman, and held a commission as justice of the peace. He enlisted as a soldier in the French and Indian war, and had the title of "captain" at its close. The following is from the records of Lexington:—

"Att a meeting of [the] Select men on Munday y<sup>e</sup> 14th Day of February, 1763, Will. Reed Esq Paid to y<sup>e</sup> Town Treasurer of Lexington £ 4 : 0 : 0 : which he received of Capt. Abel Lawrence of Grotten for y<sup>e</sup> town of Lexington supporting the French Nutturals [neutrals] Assigned to Groten."

Abel Lawrence and his wife were admitted to the church Aug. 18, 1770.

The following items are included in the inventory of his estate:—

"one blue coat. 9/, one Brown collar<sup>d</sup> coat 8/, one Blue Waist coat 4/, one Black Jacit 2/, one alwool Jacit 7/, 3 p<sup>rs</sup> of Stolkins 4/4, woolen yarn 21/7, tow yarn 2/10, sheep wool 7/4, 5 pounds of hetcheld flax & other spinning stuff 8/. wooden messuers [measures?] 6/."

## JONATHAN LAWRENCE,

The seventh child of John of Lexington, was born Feb. 13, 1706, and was admitted to the church Jan. 22, 1727, when nearly twenty-one years of age. The following month he married Elizabeth Swain; and in 1729, according to the church records, he was "dismissed to the East Church in Sudbury." In that town his oldest daughter Elizabeth was born. He removed to Framingham about 1730, and returned to Lexington some ten years later.<sup>1</sup> He was a selectman in 1752, served as an assessor three years, and held other town offices. Here follow some extracts from the Lexington records: —

"[At a town-meeting] on Munday y<sup>e</sup> 21: day of May 1744; Voted to Choose a Com<sup>tee</sup> to Provide a Schoole-master & to provide Schoole dames & fix there places: viz: Ens. William Munroe: Ephraim Winship, Nehemiah Abbot: Jonathan Lawrance."

At a meeting of the townspeople held May 21, 1759, it was —

"Voted that mr Jonathan Lawrence, Deacon Joseph Loring & Deacon James Brown be a committee to provide Rev. mr Clarke wood."

"At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Select men on y<sup>e</sup> 29th Day of June, 1761, then agreed that a womans school should be kept at mr Lawrence's."

"At a Selectmens meeting, December 28th, 1761, "Granted

<sup>1</sup> These dates are given after comparison of the different town and church records. They do not correspond exactly with those in Temple's History of Framingham, p. 621.

an order to pay to mr Jonathan Lawrence ye sum of 12, 0<sup>s</sup>, 0<sup>d</sup>, it being for what he worked at y<sup>e</sup> highway over & above his rate."

"Also Granted an order to pay to Lawrence £2, 5<sup>s</sup> 13, d4 more, it being for his wifes keeping one of y<sup>e</sup> women's schools."

Jonathan Lawrence died March 19, 1773, aged sixty-seven years.

His will, dated June 17, 1772, and probated April 20, 1773, contains this clause: "I give my negroes among all my children."

Slaves were kept in Lexington from the early days until Revolutionary times. In the year 1738 there were about twenty in the town. The writer corresponded in 1882 with a great-granddaughter of Jonathan Lawrence. This lady, Mrs. Polly Sayles, who is still living (1888) in Cambridge, Ill., was born on the "old Lawrence Place" in Lexington, Mass., in 1799. She wrote, describing the homestead:—

"The house the colored slaves had was one story [high], with a slant roof from the main two-story house. It was plastered and comfortable."

Mrs. Sayles has often heard her father describe how, in his childhood, he used to romp with the children of the slaves owned by *his* father, Bezaleel Lawrence.

#### BEZALEEL LAWRENCE,

The second son of Jonathan, and grandson of John of Lexington, was born in Framingham, Mass., April 13, 1736. When he was about four years old, his father



returned to Lexington, and made his home on the ancestral farm in that town. Bezaleel Lawrence was admitted to the church in Lexington, March 26, 1758; and on Oct. 19 of the same year he married Sarah Muzzey, who was born March 30, 1737. She was a daughter of Amos Muzzey, a wealthy citizen and large land-owner. Bezaleel Lawrence served five months in the American army in 1775. He was the tax-collector of Lexington in 1777. His warrant for the collection of the taxes of that year was obtained by the writer from the family of his great-grandson, Edwin Lawrence of North Leominster, Mass., and is now among the relics belonging to the Cary Library in Lexington.

Bezaleel Lawrence died Feb. 6, 1797.<sup>1</sup>

The following extract from the town records illustrates a custom which prevailed for many years before the Revolution. Householders were required by law to give notice to the selectmen of their town whenever they received into their families any stranger, whether as guest or domestic; and if, in the judgment of the authorities, the newcomers were likely to become a public charge, they were thereupon "warned" to leave town forthwith.

Bezaleel Lawrence informed y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen that he had taken into his family as an apprentice in y<sup>e</sup> month of May last one Jonathan Holden. He came from Groton. His circumstances to me unknown.

Beza<sup>a</sup>. Lawrence.

Dated

Lexington. October y<sup>e</sup> 2nd. 1765.

<sup>1</sup> A great-granddaughter of Bezaleel Lawrence, Mrs. Charlotte Blinn, and her two daughters are residents of Lexington.



## MICAH LAWRENCE,

The third son of Jonathan, and grandson of John of Lexington, was born in that town March 15, 1739, and was baptized April 1, following, by the Rev. Ebenezer Hancock, associate pastor of the first parish. His boyhood was probably passed in Lexington; and, as his mother was employed as a teacher of one of the town schools, it is likely that she had charge of his early education. He graduated at Harvard College in 1759, and taught school for a while at Lincoln, Mass., where his cousin the Rev. William Lawrence was settled. He afterward taught at Worcester, Mass., and on Nov. 14, 1764, was ordained minister of the church at Winchester, N.H. Some particulars of his ordination and labors in that place have been given by his grandson, the Rev. John Lawrence, in the family genealogy. Micah Lawrence was a pronounced loyalist; and this fact created disaffection among his people, and led to his retirement from his pastorate at Winchester in the early part of the Revolution. He died in Keene, N.H., in 1794.

## BENJAMIN LAWRENCE,

The ninth child of John and Anna (Tarbell) Lawrence, was born in Lexington "maye 28th day in the yeare 1713,"<sup>1</sup> and was baptized on the 31st by the Rev. John Hancock.<sup>2</sup> He married Feb. 12, 1735, Jane, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Russell.<sup>3</sup> She

<sup>1</sup> See Family Register. Appendix, No. 9.

<sup>2</sup> Lexington church records.

<sup>3</sup> Lexington town records.

was born in Lexington, July 19, 1711. Benjamin Lawrence was admitted to the church June 29, 1735. Their oldest child, Benjamin, was born in Lexington. In 1737 they removed to Westborough, where five daughters were born.<sup>1</sup> Although not formally dismissed from the church in Westborough until February, 1749, they appear to have removed to Bolton the previous year, as the birth of their son Amos is recorded there July 26, 1748.<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Lawrence died at Harvard, July 5, 1767. His widow removed with her son Amos to Ashburnham, where she died Aug. 11, 1786.<sup>3</sup>

#### CAPT. AMOS LAWRENCE,

The tenth and youngest child of John and Anna Lawrence, was born in Lexington Feb. 13, 1716, and was baptized when six days old. He removed to Groton in 1742 or earlier. Following is the first mention of him in the town records:—

“Att a Leagall Town meeting of the Inhabitance of the town of Groton Assembled and meet att the Publick meeting house august 24th: AD: 1742. Chose William Lawrance Esq<sup>r</sup> moderator for said meeting. Voted that Shebual Hobart Ju<sup>r</sup>. William Bennitt, Amos Lawrance and Nehemiah Hobart have Liberty to Build a Pew in the meeting House Over the womans Stairs such an one as they have already built over the mens Stairs.”

From recorded contemporary deeds, we learn that as a young man he was, by trade, a shoemaker, or

<sup>1</sup> Westborough records.

<sup>3</sup> History of Ashburnham.

<sup>2</sup> Bolton records.

cordwainer. In 1745 he was chosen a sealer of leather, and in 1746 and 1748 his name appears in a list of duly licensed tavern-keepers. His brother William's name appears in the same list in the years immediately preceding, and it is likely that Amos resided for a time with him. In September, 1746, a French fleet of seventy vessels, under the Duc d'Anville, sent to avenge the loss of Louisburg the year before, appeared in the vicinity of Massachusetts Bay. In response to an appeal for assistance, the militia from far and near hastened to the defence of Boston, as apprehensions were felt for its safety. Capt. (afterwards Col.) William Lawrence marched with a company from Groton, and his brother, Sergt. Amos, accompanied him.

The fleet, however, was so disabled by storms, that it set sail for France without having accomplished any thing, and after a brief term of service the soldiers returned to their homes. The clerk of the company was William Prescott, who won renown at Bunker Hill twenty-nine years later.

"It appearing to the Com<sup>tee</sup> [of] the Town of Groton that adjoyning to som<sup>e</sup> of the Land belongin to Amos Lawrance of Groton the Town way is stratned and som of It Taken by his fence and he being willing to purchas some of sd Town way according to the Towns vote in that Case made november the 4 1734. In consideration of four pound seventeen shillings and sixpence old Tenour payed to us for the use of the Town haue sold to the said Amos Lawrance to have and to hold to him his heirs and assigns for euer Seuenty eight poles of Land adioyning to his own Land on both sides the highway . . . Square with Sam<sup>l</sup> Scriptures

Land on the east side the way and so Running Till it comes to Land belongin to the heirs of nathaniel Sawtell Esq. Leauing the Road four poles wide at the Least and we do hear by order the instrument to be Recorded in the Town book as a Good Title to him his heirs and assigns for euer witness our hands the 2 day of may anno Domi[ni] 1749.

Entered Thos Tarbell

Town clerk.

William Lawrance, Daniel farnsworth. Thos. Tarbell  
Comtee."

The original highways in Groton were unnecessarily wide ; and the farmers who owned lands bordering on these roads had in many cases enclosed within their fences strips of public land, to which they had, of course, no legal right or title.<sup>1</sup>

Amos Lawrence, although now a resident of Groton, chose a wife from his native town. He married Nov. 7, 1749, Abigail Abbott of Lexington. Her father, Nehemiah Abbott, removed from Andover to Weston, in 1714, and again, about five years later, to the south-west part of Lexington, now within the township of Lincoln.

(The east part of Concord, the south-west part of Lexington, and the north-west part of Weston were incorporated as the second precinct of Concord in 1746. Nehemiah Abbott and some thirty others living in this district did not sign the petition for incorporation, and were therefore legal residents of their respective towns until the precinct was further incorporated as the town of Lincoln in 1754. The

<sup>1</sup> See Butler's History of Groton, p. 45.

lands of the Abbott family lay partly within the present limits of Lexington and partly in Lincoln.)

Nehemiah Abbott was a highly respected citizen of Lexington, and at different times filled the offices of school-committee man, assessor, and town treasurer. His daughter Abigail was born Jan. 26, 1721, and was baptized when three days old. She was admitted to the church Feb. 5, 1738. Although an authentic record exists of the date of the marriage of Amos Lawrence and Abigail Abbott, the place is not mentioned.

It is probable that the ceremony was performed at Lexington, where the parents of both parties resided, by the Rev. John Hancock, who had been the minister of the First Parish for fifty-one years, and who had also baptized each of them in infancy. He was the grandfather of the distinguished Revolutionary patriot of the same name. The records of marriages kept by Mr. Hancock prior to 1750 are unfortunately lost. It is possible, however, that the Rev. William Lawrence, a nephew of the bridegroom, may have been the officiating clergyman, as he had been recently ordained at Lincoln, in the immediate neighborhood of the Abbotts' residence.

At about the time of his marriage, Amos Lawrence purchased several tracts of land in Groton, nearly three hundred acres in all, probably considering this to be a judicious mode of investing the money recently inherited by him under his father's will. And here we may remark that a predilection for landed property seems to have been from early times a prominent family characteristic, and the same trait is observable in later generations.

Amos Lawrence and his wife took up their residence in Groton on the homestead once occupied by Nathaniel Lawrence, where their sons Amos, jun., Nehemiah, and Samuel were born. He soon became interested in town affairs, and was elected constable and collector in 1752. At a town-meeting, May 6, 1754, it was voted —

“that the meeting house Com<sup>tee</sup> provide one hogshead of rum, one Loaf of white Shuger, one quarter of a hundred of brown Shugar. also voted that Deacon Stone, Deacon farwell, Lt Isaac woods, benje Stone, Lt John woods, Capt Sam<sup>l</sup> Tarbell, amos Lawrance, Ensign obadiah parker, Capt bancroft be a Com<sup>tee</sup> and to provide Victuals and Drink for a hundred men and If the people Dont subs[c]rib enough, then the Com<sup>tee</sup> to purchas the Remainder upon the Towns Cost.”

These supplies were provided for use at the “raising” of the fourth meeting-house, an event which took place soon after (May 22-25).

The frame of the church which was erected at that time remains to the present day; but the building has been faced about, and now stands at a right angle to its former position.

On Dec. 2 of the same year, Amos Lawrence was appointed one of the committee of fifteen “to measure and Take a plan of the pew Ground” in the new church, and three months later he was again chosen a sealer of leather. Early in the French and Indian war, in 1755, the year of Braddock’s ill-fated expedition against Fort du Quesne, Groton, though herself no longer on the frontier, had yet to furnish her quota of soldiers to defend the outlying settlements



against the Indians. Lieut. Amos Lawrence was detailed by his brother, Col. William, to place scouts along the border from Athol to Northfield.<sup>1</sup> How long he was engaged in this service, does not appear; but it is evident that in those days the transition from civil to military life, and *vice versa*, was easy and frequent.

In 1756 Amos Lawrence was chosen a selectman of Groton, and during the ensuing twenty years he held that office fifteen times. He was appointed one of the appraisers of the estate of his nephew Capt. Thomas Lawrence of Pepperell, who was killed by the Indians in 1758. From the town records a few extracts are here given:—

“At a Legall meeting of the freeholders and other inhab-  
itance of the town of Groton quallified acording to law To  
vote in town afairs being assembled and meet at the Publick  
meeting house in said Town on fryday y<sup>e</sup> first Day of Sep-  
tember 1758. . . . 3<sup>ly</sup> then y<sup>e</sup> question was put whether  
the town would add two to y<sup>e</sup> former Committee Chosen to  
provide a work house and it past in the afirmative and then  
voted and chose m<sup>r</sup> Elisha Rockwood and En<sup>s</sup>. amos Lawrance  
as an addition to the former Committee

Recorded.

Abel Lawrence, Town Clerk.

In the warrant for the annual town-meeting, March 1, 1763, to be holden at “ten of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> fore-noon,” article eight reads as follows:—

“To see if y<sup>e</sup> town will Confirm and order y<sup>e</sup> road [to] be and remain of y<sup>e</sup> same wideth as it is now used between Captain Amos Lawrance’s dwelling-house and m<sup>r</sup> Peter

<sup>1</sup> Mass. Archives, liv. 521. See Groton during the Indian Wars (p. 169), by Dr. S. A. Green.



Stevens's dwelling-house so as that y<sup>e</sup> said Lawrance may have y<sup>e</sup> benefit of passing and repassing to and from his dwelling-house afore said in ye severall Paths to and from y<sup>e</sup> said house as y<sup>e</sup> same are now Trod."

At this meeting "the said Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lawrence appeared before the Town and engaged by his verbale Promise to Indemnifie the town from any Cost or Charge they may be put to by reason of this vote." At the same meeting he was chosen "one of a Comittee to seat y<sup>e</sup> meeting house a new and they are to receive instructions at y<sup>e</sup> next meeting concerning y<sup>e</sup> same."

At a town-meeting, May 18, 1767, it was —

"Voted, To Discontinue a part of the two Rods Town Way leading from the House where Jn<sup>o</sup>. Bush now Dwells to the claypits where the same is now Trod & accept by way of Exchange that way which is now laid out by the Select-men provided Cap<sup>t</sup> Amos Lawrance & Lt. Hezekiah Sawtell Charge the Town Nothing for the Land. They are also allowed the Timber which is standing on the new Road & to have their highway Rates abated for this year."

In 1760 he was first called "captain." Later, he was twice appointed one of a committee to reckon with the town treasurer.

In the years immediately preceding the war for independence, Capt. Amos Lawrence was a firm adherent to the principle of resistance to the unjust measures adopted by the mother country. In January, 1773, as one of the selectmen of Groton, he signed a warrant for a town-meeting called "to consider the matters of grievance which the people of North America and the inhabitants of this Province in

particular, labor under, relating to the violation and infringement of their rights and liberties." At this meeting, held on the 25th of the month, he was chosen one of a committee of eleven of the principal inhabitants, "to consider what is best for the town to do, and to report a draft of votes and resolves relative to the rights of this Province." A fortnight later, the committee made a report,<sup>1</sup> a copy of which was sent to the Boston Committee of Correspondence. This document gives eloquent expression to the enlightened patriotism of those days, and is typical of the independent and manly spirit which animated our ancestors, not only at this period, but throughout the struggle for freedom. At a town-meeting held Jan. 3, 1775, a committee of inspection was chosen, consisting of fifteen citizens, including Capt. Amos Lawrence, who were instructed to further the carrying out of the resolves of the American Congress Association and of the Provincial Congress. Early in April, in accordance with a vote of the town, the names of certain citizens of Tory proclivities were posted in the public-houses of the town. These details have been given with a view to emphasize the fact that Capt. Amos Lawrence was not only an efficient town officer, but was also fully alive to the wider interests which claimed his attention as a patriot.

In 1777 he was one of a committee to make provision for the settlement of the Rev. Daniel Chaplin as minister of the church in Groton. In the following year he was elected a surveyor of highways. On March 12, 1781, Judge Sullivan, Dr. Prescott,

<sup>1</sup> See Butler's history for this report and subsequent proceedings.

Capt. Amos Lawrence, Dr. Bancroft, and Lieut. Elisha Rockwood were chosen a committee "to consider and report what shall be done by the Town to redress the grievances complained of by the society at the north end of the Town."

Mrs. Abigail Lawrence died Jan. 6, 1784; and her husband's death occurred June 20, 1785.<sup>1</sup>

### THE HOMESTEAD IN GROTON,

Now owned and occupied by William Peabody, and situated on the road to Ayer, a little south of the point where the cross-road to Farmer's Row diverges, has an interest for the Lawrence family, on account of its early and later associations. The house is a somewhat prominent landmark, because of its elevated position on a ridge overlooking James's Brook. There is nothing in its outward aspect to distinguish it from hundreds of thrifty-looking farmhouses scattered over New England. To trace the ownership of this homestead from the days when the dusky red-man still lurked in the neighborhood, has been a pleasant task. Ensign Nathaniel Lawrence lived here for some years, having purchased it probably about 1683, as elsewhere stated. Early in the following year, he bought of John Morse a four-acre lot adjoining this farm on the

<sup>1</sup> A hall clock which was given to Abigail Abbott at the time of her marriage to Capt. Amos Lawrence, in 1749, is now owned by Abbott Lawrence, Esq., of Boston. On the brass face of the clock is engraved, "Brand, Boston" (England).

The Rev. David Fosdick of Groton, who married in 1841 Sarah Lawrence Woodbury, a great-granddaughter of Capt. Amos Lawrence, has a large square table with turned legs connected by wooden bars, and used by Abigail Lawrence for cutting cloth.

east, and bordering on the great road to Boston, and on the Indian Hills. (See Appendix, No. 5.) After this, the estate came into the possession of Daniel Cady, a carpenter, who sold it May 1, 1707, for £55 in "currant money," to Jonathan Whitcomb, a tanner. It is thus described at this time : —

"a ffour acre & a halfe right, house & Lands ; one house Lott and medow bounded East on y<sup>e</sup> Country Road, north on Obadiah Sawtell and William Longley's Broad meadow, west on y<sup>e</sup> town highway and south on Sam<sup>l</sup> Scripture."

On March 2, 1710, the place was sold to Samuel Barron, husbandman, who owned it for nearly forty years, and who conveyed it, with other lands, Dec. 19, 1748, to Amos Lawrence, cordwainer.

Thus the latter, influenced, it may be, partly by practical considerations, and partly by sentiment, acquired the former home of his grandfather Nathaniel. Here his children, Amos, jun., Nehemiah, and Samuel, were born, and also his grandson Luther. In 1785 the estate was inherited by the oldest son, Amos, jun. ; and after his death, in 1798, it was assigned to his widow Betty and her children. She died in 1822 ; and the farm then became the property of her surviving son, Asa Lawrence, who continued to reside there until June, 1838, at which time he left Groton, and went to live with his only son, Benjamin Franklin Lawrence, near Belvidere, in Boone County, on the northern border of the State of Illinois. His death occurred there some three years later. After 1838 the homestead passed into other hands, and has been since owned successively by Andrew Shattuck, Stowe Hildreth, and William Peabody.

## LIEUT. AMOS LAWRENCE, Junior,

The eldest son of Capt. Amos and Abigail (Abbott) Lawrence, and grandson of John of Lexington, was born in Groton, Sept. 9, 1750, and married Dec. 31, 1772, Betty, the second daughter of Nathan and Mary (Patterson) Hubbard of Groton. She was born Dec. 24, 1750. They were admitted to full communion in the church Sept. 12, 1773. When the news of the Lexington battle came, Amos Lawrence, jun., marched to Cambridge with Capt. John Sawtell's company in Col. James Prescott's militia regiment. He received payment for three weeks' service at this time. In 1776 he was first lieutenant of Capt. J. Holden's company, Sixth Middlesex Regiment. He served the town as selectman three years, and also as surveyor of highways, tithing-man, and warden.

Of his six children, a daughter Betsey, and two sons Amos and Asa, lived to mature age.

Lieut. Amos Lawrence, jun., died May 1, 1798, in his forty-eighth year.

The inventory of his estate (Middlesex Registry of Probate, Oct. 7, 1798) contains these items:—

“Dwelling house . . \$500; Barn, Cyder mill and Shed . \$100; Corn House, \$20; the home farm, containing about twenty-three acres, bounded Northerly on land of Sam<sup>l</sup>. White Esq, Westerly on land of Amos Davis, Southerly on land of Oliver Prescott Jn<sup>r</sup>, Esq; Easterly on a town road and land of John Loring, . . . \$1000. one third of a Pew on the lower floor of the Meeting House . . . \$16. also one Pew in the front Gallery, viz. No. 3 on the Men's side . . . \$25.

Whole am<sup>t</sup>. of Inventory . . . \$2006.”

The committee appointed to appraise the real estate of Lieut. Amos Lawrence, jun., assigned to the widow Betty —

“the two rooms in the westerly end of the Dwelling-house, with so much of the Cellar as lies under them, and the Chambers and Garret over said rooms, with the privilege of passing up and down the front, back and Cellar Stairs; also an equal privilege in the Wells and door-yards, and of the passage from without into the great Cellar, as may be necessary or convenient, to carry in Cider or other produce.”

It appears from the Groton church records, that —

“Betty, wife of William Abbot, formerly wife of Amos Lawrance, [was] dismissed (May 4, 1800) & recommended to the church in Wilton where she now lives.”

#### NEHEMIAH LAWRENCE,

The second son of Capt. Amos, and grandson of John of Lexington, was born in Groton, Jan. 14, 1752, and married Oct. 25, 1774, Esther, the third daughter of Zachariah and Elizabeth (Grimes) Fitch of Bedford, Mass. She was born Oct. 13, 1749. Nehemiah Lawrence and his wife owned the baptismal covenant April 9, 1775. Their four daughters were born in Groton. He was a Groton minute-man, and a sergeant in Capt. Farwell's company in Col. William Prescott's regiment. He held at different times the offices of surveyor of highways, tithing-man, and fence-viewer. His residence was on the place previously owned and occupied by John Bush.

This farm became his own by inheritance, together



with certain adjacent lands which his father had purchased from the heirs of Samuel Waldo and from James, William, and Oliver Prescott, and Hezekiah Sawtell. Nehemiah Lawrence died July 13, 1786, in his thirty-fifth year.

The inventory of his estate, dated Sept. 19 of the same year, contains, among other articles, the following:—

“Grey Surtoot, 20/, Best Blue coat, Jacoat [jacket or waistcoat] & Breeches 60/ chocolate colour<sup>d</sup> Coat & Jacoat 18/ Fustion Coat, Jacoat & Breeches 10/ Black Everlasting Jacoat & Breeches 10/. Stock buckle & two Stocks 2/. silver knee-buckles 5/. Serge coat 12/. white breeches 3/. 9 peauter platters 30/ 25 peauter plates 20/ 5 peauter basons 4/4.”

### MAJOR SAMUEL LAWRENCE,

The third and youngest son of Amos and Abigail Lawrence, and grandson of John of Lexington, was born in Groton, April 24, 1754. His early life was passed on his father's farm.<sup>1</sup>

He was a corporal in one of the Groton companies of minute-men. Late in the afternoon of Tuesday, April 18, 1775, several brass cannon arrived in Groton, having been sent there by a vote of the Committee of Safety of the Provincial Congress.

*Tradition says*<sup>2</sup> that the minute-men held a meeting

In 1756 Samuel Barron in his will bequeathed to Samuel Lawrence, then a child of two years, the sum of £13 6s. 8d., “if the sd Sam<sup>ll</sup> live to the age of twenty-one years, but if he don't live to that age, Then the sd. sum to be Paid to the Two Elder Brothers of the sd. Sam<sup>ll</sup> Lawrence, viz: Amos Lawrence and Nehemiah Lawrence.”

<sup>2</sup> Groton Historical Series, No. XVI., by Dr. S. A. Green.



that same evening ; and that nine of them set out after dark, carrying lighted torches, and, marching during the night, reached Concord very early on Wednesday morning. Having breakfasted, they joined the minute-men of Concord and the adjoining towns, and were participants in the fight at the North Bridge, and in the pursuit of the British troops as far as Lexington or beyond.

The first intelligence of the battle of Lexington reached Groton at ten o'clock in the forenoon of the 19th. Samuel Lawrence was at work ploughing in the field near his home, when his neighbor, Gen. Oliver Prescott, rode up and shouted, "Samuel, notify your men ; the British are coming!"<sup>1</sup> Mounting the general's horse, the young farmer rode at the utmost speed, calling out the minute-men who lived in his circuit, which comprised the southerly part of the town, now included in the township of Ayer. After riding a distance of seven miles in forty minutes, he returned to his father's house, and then joined his company at the church, where brief services were held. Meantime the selectmen, Gen. Oliver Prescott, Col. James Prescott, Capt. Josiah Sartell, Deacon Isaac Farnsworth, and Capt. Amos Lawrence had been distributing arms and ammunition to the soldiers. At one o'clock the two Groton companies, numbering one hundred and one men, commanded by Capt. Henry Farwell and Asa Lawrence, and the Pepperell company, were on the road, and marched with all possible despatch to Concord and Lexington.

<sup>1</sup> Diary and Correspondence of Amos Lawrence (p. 17). By William R. Lawrence, M.D.

Owing to the distance, they were not able to reach the scene of action in season to participate in the exciting events of that afternoon;<sup>1</sup> but the same evening they reported at the headquarters of the American army at Cambridge, and that night, which marked the commencement of the siege, the Middlesex minute-men were on duty, guarding the roads which led to Boston.<sup>2</sup>

And now the militia from far and near hurried to Cambridge. The farmers, in their haste, brought little beside the clothes they wore, and their fowling-pieces and powder-horns. Most of them had little or no food or money.

Capt. Amos Lawrence, soon after the eventful 19th of April, drove from Groton to the camp, carrying a wagon-load of provisions to his son and some of his neighbors, members of the Groton companies. During the ensuing eight weeks, Samuel Lawrence was, with his company, encamped at Cambridge, and acted as an orderly to his colonel.

The regiment from Western Middlesex was commissioned May 26. At twilight, on June 16, three hundred men of this command, including the two Groton companies, and forming part of a special detail under Col. Prescott, paraded on Cambridge Common. After dark they marched by a direct road (now Kirkland Street in Cambridge, and Washington Street in Somerville) to Charlestown Neck, and thence to Breed's Hill, which they proceeded to intrench during the night.<sup>3</sup> In the battle of Bunker Hill

<sup>1</sup> Butler's History of Pepperell, p. 336.

<sup>2</sup> Frothingham's Siege of Boston.

<sup>3</sup> For some further details of Samuel Lawrence's experiences at Bunker Hill, see Groton Hist. Series, vol. ii., No. 2, pp. 40 and 55.

the following afternoon, the Groton companies were stationed in the redoubt, and behind the breastwork. Samuel Lawrence, at this time twenty-one years old, fought in the former position. He was near Gen. Warren when the latter was shot. When the British made the third assault, their artillery fire raked the line of the breastwork, and the Americans stationed there were driven inside the redoubt. While some of the British battalions attacked the southern and eastern ramparts, others took possession of the deserted breastwork; thus gaining a position on the north side of the fort, where was its only entrance. Capt. Farwell was severely wounded about this time; and Samuel Lawrence received a slight wound on the arm from a spent grape-shot, and a bullet pierced his hat, cutting a furrow in his hair. He saw a British officer, whom he understood to be Major Pitcairn, scale the breastwork, and call to his men to follow. A moment later the officer fell, mortally wounded, into the slight trench outside the works.

When the British at length entered the redoubt, and its defenders were forced to retire owing to lack of ammunition, Samuel Lawrence retreated across the brow of Bunker Hill, and thence over Charlestown Neck towards Cambridge.

He remained in the army for more than three years after the battle of Bunker Hill, and was in constant active service with the exception of two brief furloughs. Of the details of his army life we have but meagre knowledge; but our aim shall be to follow the movements of the Western Middlesex regiment, with

which he constantly remained. We know that during the remainder of the year 1775, while yet a non-commissioned officer, he continued to serve as an orderly to Col. Prescott; and the experience gained in this capacity must have been of value in his subsequent military career.

In the latter part of June the regiment was with the centre division of the army, encamped at Cambridge. On the 3d of July it was ordered to take possession of the woods leading to Lechmere's Point (East Cambridge); and about the 10th of the month it was stationed at Sewall's Point, on the south bank of Charles River, and near the present Cottage Farm railroad station. Here was built an extensive redoubt, known as "Brookline Fort," which was of irregular shape and very strong.<sup>1</sup> Connected with it were barracks for some four hundred men. On the opposite bank of the river, to the north-east, was a battery mounting three guns; and on the south, between Brookline Fort and Muddy River, on the present site of the Longwood Schoolhouse, were placed a small redoubt and a battery, — all forming part of the semicircular fortified line which invested Boston. The regiment occupied a part of the Sewall Farm,<sup>2</sup> including the grove to the north of the residence of the late Amos A. Lawrence. Col. Prescott

<sup>1</sup> This redoubt was preserved in good condition until 1835, when the Boston and Worcester Railroad, whose course lay directly through it, was constructed. Afterwards Abbott's Wharf was built upon its water-front, and nothing remained but the well on the left of the driveway to the wharf, and the old ovens in a corner of the estate of A. A. Lawrence; and even these have now disappeared. — *Historical Sketches of Brookline, Mass.* By HARRIET F. WOODS.

<sup>2</sup> Mass. Hist. Soc. Proceedings, 1869-70.

had his headquarters at the house of Mr. Edward K. Wolcott, a son-in-law of Mr. Henry Sewall, jun.

This house is situated on Beacon Street in Brookline, about three-quarters of a mile west of the Boston line, and now forms part of the Stearns estate. On July 22, by order of Gen. Washington, the regiment was attached to a new brigade, commanded by Brig.-Gen. Heath. It appears to have remained at Sewall's Point most of the time until the following March, and was now known as the Seventh Regiment of Foot. On Jan. 1, 1776, the date of organization of the new Continental army, Samuel Lawrence received a commission as ensign of one of the Groton companies, commanded by Capt. Joseph Moors. On the twenty-ninth day of March following, twelve days after the evacuation of Boston by the British, six regiments of foot, including Prescott's, started for New York under command of Gen. Sullivan. They marched to Norwich, Conn., and thence to New London, where they embarked on the Sound. Previous to their departure, the regimental commanders received a special exhortation from Gen. Washington<sup>1</sup> to "spruce up" their men, as they were about to join the troops from other colonies, and it was desirable that they should present as creditable an appearance as possible. After remaining a few days in New-York City, the regiment was stationed at Governor's Island in the harbor, where Fort Columbus had been built by the British in 1684; and here they remained in garrison until the end of the summer.

<sup>1</sup> Force's Archives.

On July 3, the day before the Declaration of Independence, the commissioned officers of the regiment wrote a letter to Gen. Heath, in which they expressed their determination to fight to the last in defence of their country, and urged the need of re-enforcements to their little garrison. After the battle of Long Island, Aug. 27, and the retreat of the Americans two days later, Col. Prescott withdrew his regiment from the island in excellent order, and joined the army at New York.

This manœuvre was skilfully executed; for the regiment was in almost as great danger of being captured as at Bunker Hill,<sup>1</sup> and its escape was largely due to Lord Howe's failure to take immediate advantage of the defeat of Washington's army. On the very day of the withdrawal of the regiment, Aug. 30, the British fleet under Admiral Howe anchored close to Governor's Island.

After the evacuation of the city of New York by the Americans in the middle of September, the Middlesex regiment was encamped with the army at Harlem Heights, and early in October it was posted on the bank of the Harlem River near King's Bridge. From a return of the commissioned officers dated the 4th of the month, it appears that many of their number were off duty by reason of sickness; but we find that Ensign Samuel Lawrence was "on command." On the 12th of the month some four thousand British troops landed at Throgg's Point, the end of a peninsula which projects into the sound nearly opposite Whitehall, and about fifteen miles easterly from New-York

<sup>1</sup> Bancroft's History of the United States, vol. ix.



City. Acting under orders from the commander-in-chief, Gen. Heath sent a detachment, including Prescott's regiment, some riflemen, and a field-piece, to oppose the progress of the enemy. The latter attempted to push forward towards a causeway and bridge which connected Throgg's Neck with the main land of Westchester County, but were driven back by the riflemen, assisted by Prescott's regiment and the field-piece.<sup>1</sup> The British forces then encamped for five days on the peninsula, after which they re-embarked. Meantime the Middlesex regiment, strongly intrenched, had guarded the approach to the interior; and on the 17th it was ordered to Fort Independence, near King's Bridge, and thence four days later it marched with Parsons' brigade of Heath's division to White Plains, where the American army remained in a fortified camp near the village until the end of the month. The enemy meanwhile occupied a position on neighboring hills, eastward of the Bronx River. On Oct. 31 the army continued its northward march, and reached North-Castle Heights near Tarrytown.<sup>2</sup> A return of this date shows that more than one-half of the commissioned officers of Prescott's regiment were on the sick-list.

On the evening of Nov. 10 the regiment arrived at Peekskill, and on the 13th was encamped about two miles above the town, at a narrow defile of the mountains. This position was of a great strategic importance, as it commanded the southern entrance to the Highlands of the Hudson. To fortify and defend the pass, was the duty assigned the Middlesex minute-men.

<sup>1</sup> Irving's Washington. Heath's Memoirs.

<sup>2</sup> Lossing's Field-book.



On about the 10th of December, Prescott's regiment was sent across the river into New Jersey, and four days later was at Hackensack Bridge, near Bergen. On the 16th it returned to Peekskill, and remained for many weeks in that vicinity. During the month of January, 1777, Prescott's regiment marched with an expedition under Gen. Heath to King's Bridge, but had hardly arrived at that point when it was ordered to retrace its steps, and return to its former post at the Highlands. Here, in the neighborhood of Peekskill, the regiment remained until the early summer. Meantime Col. Prescott resigned his commission, and retired from the army; and the command devolved upon the lieutenant-colonel, John Robinson of Westford. About the 1st of July the regiment was transferred to Rhode Island, and stationed at North Kingston; and we learn from a muster-roll of this date, that Samuel Lawrence was now a second lieutenant in Capt. Nathaniel Lakin's company.

The regiment appears to have been ordered to Cambridge for a few days in July;<sup>1</sup> and Lieut. Lawrence obtained a brief leave of absence, and hastened to Groton for the express purpose of marrying Susanna Parker, a young lady whom he had known from childhood, and to whom he had been for some two years engaged. His mother, Abigail Abbott Lawrence, favored an immediate union, in view of the vicissitudes of war. "Susan had better be Sam's widow," she said, "than his forlorn damsel." On the 22d of July, while the marriage ceremony was in progress, the alarm-bell was heard, again summoning

<sup>1</sup> Diary and Correspondence of Amos Lawrence (p. 18). By William R. Lawrence, M.D.

all soldiers to arms. This alarm was probably caused by the continued southward march of Gen. Burgoyne's army from Canada. Ticonderoga had fallen, and the northern States were aroused to a sense of danger. Within the hour the bridegroom was on his way to the camp at Cambridge. Col. Robinson, on learning the peculiar circumstances of his marriage, granted the lieutenant a furlough; and he was thus enabled to return to his wife for a brief visit, afterwards rejoining his regiment then at North Kingston. Here he was stationed during the autumn and winter following. On Dec. 31, 1777, he again returned to his home for a brief visit, and was present at the ordination of the Rev. Daniel Chaplin as pastor of the Groton church.

During the year 1778, Rhode Island was to be the scene of active military operations. The Middlesex minute-men, after a long period of forced inactivity, were to take part in the summer campaign of that year. On the seventh day of August, while at Tiverton, Samuel Lawrence was commissioned adjutant of the regiment commanded by Col. William McIntosh. For this position he was well qualified by more than three years of continuous military training, and also by reason of his stentorian lungs and far-reaching voice. He was for a time attached to the staff of Gen. Sullivan, and soon afterward was promoted to be major. On the 9th of August the American forces crossed the Seaconnet Channel, and landed on the north end of the island of Rhode Island. The few British troops stationed at this point thereupon retreated, and the Americans followed, expecting to co-operate with the French fleet under Count d'Estaing

in an attack upon Newport. Owing to the failure of the fleet to render assistance, Gen. Sullivan commenced a retreat on the night of the 28th, and the British pursued the following morning. On this day was fought the battle of Quaker Hill.

In an engagement at about this time, Samuel Lawrence became separated from his command, and was in imminent danger of being captured by the enemy. He was, however, rescued by the bravery of a company of colored troops, who rallied to his support and held the British soldiers at bay, while he, urging forward his powerful steed, was enabled to escape. It is probable that this company was a part of Col. Greene's black regiment, which had been recently organized by a vote of the Rhode Island general assembly. It is a matter of history that this command distinguished itself in this battle by repelling with great gallantry successive charges of the Hessians. We quote the words of another<sup>1</sup> on this point:—

“There is abundant evidence of the fidelity and bravery of the colored patriots of Rhode Island during the whole war. Before they had been formed into a separate regiment, they had fought valiantly with the white soldiers at Red Bank and elsewhere. Their conduct at the ‘battle of Rhode Island,’ on the 29th of August, 1778, entitles them to perpetual honor. Its success was owing, in a great degree, to the good fighting of the negro soldiers.”

The campaign ended with the battle of “Quaker Hill,” or “Rhode Island,” and the retreat of the Americans to the mainland. The news of a battle soon reached Groton, and a fond mother remarked that she

<sup>1</sup> George Livermore.

"did not know but Sam was killed," whereat the young wife fell senseless to the floor. A few days after this, Major Samuel Lawrence returned home, having resigned his commission and left the army. The date of his discharge was Sept. 12. His wife Susanna was living at his father's home, his own birthplace, the present William Peabody farm, which at this time was also the residence of his brother Amos, jun., and family. Here his oldest child Luther was born, Sept. 28, 1778. Soon after this Samuel Lawrence occupied the Tarbell place on Farmer's Row. On the decease of Capt. Samuel Tarbell, his farm was divided into nine shares, which were apportioned to the heirs-at-law. Between the years 1778 and 1782, Capt. Amos Lawrence purchased all these shares separately, including two belonging to Samuel Tarbell, jun., which had been confiscated by the Commonwealth in payment of a debt. The entire estate was inherited by Major Samuel Lawrence in 1785.

The old Tarbell dwelling, in which most of his children were born, was taken down in 1796; and the oldest portion of the present mansion, where the youngest child, Samuel, jun., was born in 1801, was erected soon after on the same foundations.<sup>1</sup> While this oldest part was in process of building, the family occupied a tenement of Capt. Farwell's, which stood just north of their own dwelling.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Letter from Samuel Lawrence of Stockbridge to James Lawrence, 1876.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Norman Seaver of Rutland, Vt., the oldest child of the Hon. Luther Lawrence, writes me (1887) that the family moved into the new house when Eliza, the eighth child (afterwards Mrs. Joshua Green), was five months old. This was in August, 1796.

Letter of Amos Lawrence of Boston to the Hon. William Sullivan, 1834.



THE LAWRENCE HOMESTEAD, GROTON, MASS. 1888.

[PHOTOGRAPHED BY MRS. JAMES LAWRENCE.]





After Deacon Samuel Lawrence's death in 1827, the farm was owned by his sons till their mother's death in 1845. It then became the property of the Hon. Abbott Lawrence, and afterwards was owned by his son James. It is now the residence of a son of the latter, James Lawrence, Esq., by whom it has been greatly enlarged and improved. The Lawrence farm has now a more than local reputation. The old elm, still standing in the front yard, was fully grown in Revolutionary times, and must be in the neighborhood of two hundred years old.

Like his father, Samuel Lawrence early became identified with the interests of the town; and we find his name, in 1781, as one of a committee to reckon with the town treasurer—a position to which he was afterwards frequently re-appointed. The same year he was a member of a committee “to receive the claims of the soldiers, and estimate the depreciation of the money.” He held nearly all the important town offices at different times, serving as assessor six years, and as “first select-man” and town clerk four years from 1795. He was repeatedly chosen a surveyor of highways, and twice officiated as moderator of town-meetings. In February, 1819, he was a delegate from the church in Groton to an ecclesiastical council convened at Shirley. He was a member of the school committee three years, and occupied that position as late as the year 1823. In 1802 he was a director and inspector of the small-pox hospital. His services were frequently sought by his fellow-citizens in matters pertaining to the town finances, and in the management of schools. When twenty-nine years of age, he was

chosen a deacon of the church, and retained the office for more than forty years. He was also a justice of the peace. Samuel Lawrence was by occupation a farmer, well-to-do though never affluent. Both he and his wife had a keen appreciation of the importance and value of a sound education, and made every exertion to secure this advantage for their nine children. The latter attended first the neighboring district school, and later all were sent to the academy.

Of this institution he was one of the founders, and for twenty-seven years a trustee. In its welfare he always took a deep interest and pride. In later years it was liberally endowed by two of his sons, and it was then called the "Lawrence Academy."<sup>1</sup> Samuel Lawrence was frequently called upon to arbitrate when controversies or disputes arose among the townspeople. "Such matters were invariably referred to him." Such is the testimony of aged residents of Groton, who speak from personal recollection.

His hospitality was proverbial; and the house was a favorite resort of his fellow-soldiers of Revolutionary times, who were wont there to meet and live over again in imagination the eventful experiences of their younger days.

The thrilling stories there often repeated were naturally of profound interest to the children of the household, and in after years were among their most vivid recollections. Deacon Lawrence was an intimate friend and associate of his former commander, Col.

<sup>1</sup> The writer's father, William R. Lawrence, M.D., was a student in the academy in 1820; and his brothers, Francis W. Lawrence, Esq., and the Rev. Arthur Lawrence, received instruction there in 1849.

William Prescott; and, living in adjoining towns, they frequently exchanged visits, and always attended the old-fashioned muster together. It appears that Samuel Lawrence sometimes furnished employment to apprentices and journeymen shoemakers, probably in the winter season, or when there was but little work to be done on the farm. In personal appearance, he is described as a short and rather stout, white-haired man. His finely shaped head was well set on his shoulders, and his figure was erect and military. Genial and pleasant tempered, he was a favorite alike with young and old. "Always on Sundays in the deacon's pew in front of the pulpit in the old church." In all the relations of life he was faithful and conscientious, and he possessed the respect and affection of his neighbors and fellow-townsmen. He was held in good repute in the community wherein he lived, and his character did not belie his reputation. Of sterling integrity, he did not swerve from the path of duty, but guarded with jealous care the heritage of an honorable name. His sons won great distinction, and their fame went abroad; but it should never be forgotten that the corner-stone of their success was the moral and religious training received in their youth at the old homestead in Groton. Samuel Lawrence was present at the laying of the corner-stone of Bunker-hill Monument in 1825; and the fatigue and excitement attendant upon a week's visit in Boston at that time were the apparent cause of a paralytic affection, which resulted in his death, Nov. 8, 1827, in his seventy-fourth year.

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An old cradle, now in the possession of Mrs. Amos A. Lawrence, is one of the most interesting family relics which have been preserved. The Rev. William Lawrence writes in regard to a tradition of this cradle: "When Major Sam Lawrence and family moved from the original home to the farm now occupied by James Lawrence, the cradle was found in the house which formerly belonged to the Tarbells." It is certain that some of Major Lawrence's children were rocked to sleep in this old cradle, whose record of useful service extends nearly to the present time.

The hat worn by Samuel Lawrence at the battle of Bunker Hill, and which was perforated by a British bullet, was preserved until the year 1796. It was lost when the old Tarbell house in Groton was pulled down. His musket is in the possession of Prescott Lawrence, Esq.

Among the Revolutionary relics on exhibition at the Old South Church in Boston, may be seen a leathern wallet (size about 6 × 3 inches) marked "S. Lawrance of Groton, 1775." It has also the following inscription: "Pocket-book used by Major Sam<sup>l</sup>. Lawrence while adjutant (1775-6) for carrying orders. The name was written by himself." James Lawrence, Esq., has two old Bibles, formerly the property of Deacon Lawrence, and containing valuable family records in the latter's handwriting. Abbott Lawrence, Esq., has his toddy-stick.

Among the Massachusetts Revolutionary muster-rolls on file at the office of the Secretary of State is the following (vol. ii. p. 184):—

“Muster Roll of Capt. Nath<sup>l</sup> Lakins company in the service of the United States Commanded by Col<sup>o</sup>. John Robinson engaged for Six Months from July 1st, 1777 taken to Dec<sup>r</sup> 18th, 1777.”

Then follow the names of the rank and file.

The officers were : —

“Commissioned	{	Nath <sup>l</sup> Lakin Captain
June 27th. 1777.		(on Furlough)
North Kingston. Dec <sup>r</sup> . 18th		John Chaney, 1st Lieut.
1777		Sam <sup>l</sup> Lawrence, 2nd Lieut.
		Ephraim Brown, Ensign.”

On the margin is the following note : “ taken from the papers of Susana Lawrence and of Lieut. Sam Lawrence.” And on the back of the roll is written : —

“We do sware that the within Muster Roll is a True State of the Company Without Fraud to these United States or any Individuals acording to the Best of our knowledge.

John Chaney Lieut. }  
Sam<sup>l</sup>. Lawrance Lieut. } ”

Among the Revolutionary muster-rolls (vol. iii. p.19) is the following : —

“Pay Roll of Bounty due to Capt. John Nutting’s comp<sup>y</sup> in Col<sup>o</sup> W<sup>m</sup> McIntosh’s Regt Gen<sup>l</sup> Lovels Brigade Militia from the State of the Massachusetts Bay on an expedition to Rhod-Island in July, Aug<sup>t</sup>. & Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1778.”

And in the list of officers we find the name of “Sam<sup>l</sup> Lawrance, Adj<sup>t</sup>. Date of Ingagement, July 30th. Date of Discharge, Sept. 12th.”

Copies of two commissions issued to Samuel Lawrence, the originals being in the possession of Abbott Lawrence, Esq. : —

### IN CONGRESS.

*The DELEGATES of the UNITED COLONIES of New-Hampshire, Maffachufetts-Bay, Rhode-Ifland, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jerfey, Pennfyvania, the Counties of New-Caftle, Kent, and Suffex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, and South Carolina, to*

Samuel Lawrence, Gentleman.

WE repofing efpecial Truft and Confidence in your Patriotifm, Valour, Conduct, and Fidelity, DO by thefe Prefents, conftitute and appoint you to be Ensign of Captain Joseph Mores Company in the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot commanded by Colonel William prefcott in the Army of the United Colonies, raifed for the Defence of *American* Liberty, and for repelling every hostile Invaſion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to difcharge the Duty of Ensign by doing and performing all Manner of Things thereunto belonging. And we do ſtrictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under your Command, to be obedient to your Orders as Ensign And you are to obferve and follow ſuch Orders and Directions from Time to Time, as you ſhall receive from this or a future Congrefs of the United Colonies, or Committee of Congrefs, for that Purpoſe appointed, or Commander in Chief for the Time being of the Army of the United Colonies, or any other your ſuperior Officer, according to the Rules and Diſcipline of War, in Purſuance of the Truſt repofed in you. This Commiſſion to continue in Force until revoked by this or a future Congrefs. Jan'y 1, 1776.

*By order of the Congrefs,*

JOHN HANCOCK *President.*

*Atteſt.* Cha<sup>s</sup> Thomson ſecy.



STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY.  
IN NEW ENGLAND.

by the Field officers of a Regiment raised by s<sup>d</sup>. State

For the defence of Emerican [*sic*] Liberties

To Sam<sup>l</sup> Lawrance[, ] Gentellman[:] Greeting.

By Virtue of the Power Invested in us we do by these Presents reposing Special Trust and Confidence in Your Loyalty Co[u]rage and good Conduct Constitute and Appoint you Adjutant of the Regiment Commanded by William McIntosh Esq<sup>r</sup>. Col<sup>o</sup>. you are therefore Car[e]fully and Diligently to discharge the duty of an Adj<sup>t</sup>. in s<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. And you are to Observe and follow such orders and Instructions as you shall from time to time receive from your Superior officers. . . .

For which this shall be your Sufficient warrent.

Given Under our hands att Tiverton this<sup>v</sup> Seventh day of August 1778.

W<sup>m</sup> McIntosh Col<sup>o</sup>.

John Buttrick L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup>.

Jon<sup>a</sup> Minot Major.

Copy of a letter from Major Samuel Lawrence to the Hon. Timothy Bigelow, the original being in the possession of James Lawrence, Esq. :—

Groton, 22 Jan'y. 1799.

My good Friend

Sir, My brother alsefsors and myself are now at Cap. Richardson's. Likewise the Trustees of Groton Ac.<sup>dy</sup>, [it] being one of our quarterly meetings. Three from Pepperell and four from Groton are the whole which composed the Board. [I] also congratulate your Honour for the good news of our eastward lands. We have had a number of very agreeable evening visits since you left Groton. [I] only mention one at your h<sup>d</sup>. father's, among which [*sic*] your Dearly beloved made

one of the Company. I want to see you at Groton. Sir, I shall take it as a favor if you will be so kind as to think of some matters you and I have conversed upon heretofore, you will much oblige your friend and Humble serv<sup>t</sup>,

In the greatest haste

Sam<sup>l</sup> Lawrance.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> T. Bigelow Esq.

### SUSANNA PARKER LAWRENCE

Was the eldest of three daughters of William and Sarah Parker, and was born in Groton Oct. 10, 1755.<sup>1</sup> Her father's homestead was about half a mile west of the point where the "Red Bridge" spans the Nashua River. The house was situated just north of the town poor-farm, on the road leading to the latter from the West-Groton highway. Here were passed the days of her childhood. Her father, William Parker, died Feb. 1, 1761;<sup>2</sup> and her mother married (July 23, 1767), for her third husband, David Taylor of Concord, and with her children made a new home in that town. The Taylor residence was in the "east quarter," so-called, about one mile from the centre, and near Meriam's corner, where a cross-road to Bedford diverges. As a result of interviews with several old residents of the neighborhood, the writer learned that the house occupied by the Taylors was taken down about 1830.

<sup>1</sup> William Parker first married (March 30, 1736) Susanna Kemp of Groton, by whom he had six children. He married for his second wife (Jan. 9, 1755) Sarah Richardson of Pepperell. She was born in 1721, and was the oldest child of Nathaniel and Hannah (Perham) Boynton of Westford, and widow of Abiel Richardson.

The writer is indebted to Dr. S. A. Green for valuable memoranda relating to the parents of Susanna Parker.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 119 for extracts from his will.

It was a large structure, situated a few rods west of Meriam's corner, and standing so near the road that the front door opened upon the sidewalk, while immediately behind the house loomed up the sandy ridge which stretches away for a mile westward to the centre of old Concord. In this same ridge, we are told, the early settlers found refuge in caves. The old Meriam house, on the east side of the Bedford road, is still standing.

The Taylor estate is thus described in a deed of March 25, 1757 : —

Joseph Taylor conveys to David Taylor of Concord, yeoman, "a Dwelling-house and barn with the land on which the same standeth, bounded Southerly on the County road, westerly on Samuel Ball's land, northerly by land called the Horse Pasture, easterly by land of Nathan Merriam, containing two acres be it more or less." — *Middlesex Registry of Deeds*, fol. 62, p. 106.

At sunrise on April 19, 1775, the members of the Taylor household plainly saw the red coats and gleaming bayonets of the British regulars, as they came marching over a hill in the north part of Lincoln, about midway between Lexington and Concord.

Mrs. Taylor and her children then left their home, and passing over the fields sought a safe retreat on a hill in the rear of the house, from which they were eye-witnesses of the exciting events which occurred later in the day. When, on their retreat soon after noon, the British reached Meriam's corner, they were attacked by a company of minute-men from Reading ; and three of their number were left, fatally wounded,

by the roadside, within a short distance of the Taylor mansion. Later in the afternoon of the same eventful day, the Groton companies were marching along the same road, hastening on to Lexington and Cambridge.

Susanna Parker was at that time nineteen years of age. She was an ardent patriot; and, like all true American women, she was devoted heart and soul to the cause of the Colonies. Doubtless her influence and the knowledge of her intense loyalty were a constant inspiration to her lover in those gloomy times.

A prominent attribute of her character was energy. Starting early from Concord, on horseback, she was accustomed to ride to Charlestown; and thence crossing the ferry to Boston,<sup>1</sup> she would accomplish her shopping, and return by the same route to Concord before nightfall. On one occasion, during the prevalence of the small-pox at Charlestown, she was obliged to submit to a process of thorough fumigation before she was permitted to resume her journey homeward. Her industry was another prominent characteristic. She was occupied with the hand-loom and spinning-wheel a goodly portion of each working-day, and in later years the material for her sons' clothing was her handiwork.

In her husband's absence, the management of the farm devolved upon her; and for this she was amply qualified, both by natural aptitude and by early training as a farmer's daughter.

She lived sixty-seven years after her romantic marriage, and attained her ninetieth year. Of the daughters of Samuel and Susanna Lawrence, Mary

<sup>1</sup> Memoir of William Lawrence (p. 11), by the Rev. S. K. Lothrop, D.D.

married the Rev. Samuel Woodbury; Eliza married Dr. Joshua Green, and resided in Groton. The five sons, Luther, William, Amos, Abbott, and Samuel, became well-known citizens, whose names are identified with the manufacturing interests of New England.

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Extracts from the will of William Parker of Groton, the father of Susanna Parker Lawrence :—

“To my Dear and well be Loved wife Sarah Parker I give and bequeath one half of my Dweling House and the Largest Barn as Long as she remains my widow. . . . also one Little bay horse and one yoke of oxen and four Cows and Twenty shoots [shots]. . . . I give and bequeath unto my well beloued Daufther Sibbel Parker one Cow and all the Housesould Goods that was her mothers Except two Iron kettles which my beloued wife is to haue the use of as Long as she Continue my widow and after that my Sibbel is to haue them again for her own.”

His “wife Sarah Parker and beloved fri[e]nd Henery Farwell” are named as executors. Date of will, Jan. 25, 1761. William Parker died Feb. 1, and his son William Parker, jun., died Jan. 8, and daughter Sybil May 10, 1761,—all three of the small-pox. (See “Groton Epitaphs,” pp. 38, 39.)

Extracts from the Groton records :—

“Amos Lawrance father of the Children under written Deseased June 20<sup>th</sup> 1785

Amos Lawrance the Son of amos Lawrance and Abigal

his wife was born at Groton

Sep<sup>r</sup> th 9 1750

Nehemiah Lawrance the son of amos Lawrance an

abigail his wife was born at Groton January th 14 1752

Sam<sup>l</sup> Lawrance the son of amos Lawrance and Abigail  
 his wife was born at Groton                      april th 24 1754  
 Asa Lawrance the son of amos Lawrance and Abigail  
 his wife was born at Groton                      June th 1 1756  
 Asa Lawrance the son of amos Lawrence & Abigail  
 his wife died at Groton with the Throat Distemper  
 on                      Nov<sup>r</sup>. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1759  
 Abigail the wife of the above named Amos Lawrance died  
 January 6<sup>th</sup>. 1784 "

Copy of a record in the family Bible of Samuel  
 Lawrence, the original being in his handwriting: —

"My father, Amos Lawrence was born in Lexington Feby  
 13th 1716.

My mother, Abigail Abbott was born at Lincoln Jan'y 26th  
 1721.

Her father's name was Nehemiah.

Their children were as follows:

Amos, born at Groton Sept. 9, 1750.

Died in May, 1798.

Nehemiah, Jan'y 14, 1752.

Died July 13, 1786.

Samuel, April 24, 1754.

Asa, June 6th, 1756.

Died Nov. 6, 1759.

Susanna Parker, my beloved wife, daughter of Mr. Wm.  
 Parker, of Groton, born October 10, 1755."

Copy of a record in the family Bible of Amos  
 Lawrence of Boston: —

#### MARRIAGES.

Amos Lawrence, son of Samuel and Susanna Lawrence,  
 born at Groton, Massachusetts, April twenty-second A.D.  
 seventeen hundred & eighty-six and Sarah Richards, daugh-



ter of Giles and Sally Richards born at Boston, Mass. July twenty-fifth A.D. seventeen hundred and ninety, were joined in matrimony in Boston by the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster June Sixth A.D. eighteen hundred eleven.

Amos Lawrence and Nancy Ellis, daughter of Robert & Mary Means of Amherst, N.H. were married at Amherst April 16, 1821 by the Rev. Mr. Lord.

Susanna Lawrence, daughter of Amos & Sarah Lawrence, and the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Charles Mason, son of Jeremiah & Mary Mason, were married in St Pauls church in Boston, June 11th 1838, by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Doct<sup>r</sup> Stone.

William Richards Lawrence son of Amos & Sarah Lawrence and Susan Coomb[s] Dana, daughter of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Dana of Marblehead were married in St Pauls church in Boston December 6<sup>th</sup> 1838, by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Doctor Stone.

Amos Adams Lawrence son of Amos and Sarah Lawrence, and Sarah Elizabeth Appleton, daughter of William & Mary Anne Appleton of Boston, were married at Boston March 31, 1842, by Rev. Francis Vinton at Mr. Appletons house in Beacon Street.

#### BIRTHS.

William Richards Lawrence born at Boston May 3<sup>d</sup> 1812.

Baptized by Rev. W<sup>m</sup> E. Channing in Brattle Street church.

Amos Adams Lawrence born at Boston July 31, 1814.

Baptized by Rev<sup>d</sup> John T. Kirkland in Brattle Street church.

Susanna Lawrence, born at Boston May 23<sup>d</sup> 1817. Baptized at Dedham by Rev. Joshua Bates.

Mary Means Lawrence, daughter of Amos & Nancy Lawrence, born at Boston April 15, 1823. Baptized in Brattle Street Church by Rev<sup>d</sup> J. G. Palfrey.

Robert Means Lawrence son of Amos and Nancy Lawrence, born at Boston September 17, 1826. Baptized in Brattle Street Church the first Sunday in January 1827 by Rev<sup>d</sup> J. G. Palfrey.

Susan Lawrence Mason, daughter of Rev<sup>d</sup> Charles & Susannah Mason born at Salem August 25, 1839.

Francis William Lawrence, son of William Richards & Susan Coomb[s] Lawrence born at Brookline November 20, 1839.

Amos Lawrence Mason, son of Charles & Susannah Mason born at Salem April 20, 1842.

Arthur Lawrence, son of William R. & Susan C. Lawrence, born at Brookline August 22, 1842.

Mary Anne Appleton, daughter of Amos & Sarah E. Lawrence Born in Boston May 12, 1843.

Sarah &	}	Twin daughters of Rev. Charles & Susannah Mason born at Salem nov <sup>r</sup> twenty-second 1844.
Mary		

Sarah, daughter of Amos A. & Sarah E. Lawrence born in Brookline on Saturday July 5, 1845 at 6 A.M.

Robert Means, Son of W<sup>m</sup> R. & Susan C Lawrence born in Boston on Friday May 14, 1847 at about 1 P.M.

[Amory Appleton], Son of Amos A. & Sarah E. Lawrence born in Boston on Saturday April 22, 1848 at 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  o'clock A.M. being on the sixty-second birthday of "Grandpa Lawrence."

#### DEATHS.

Susan Lawrence, daughter of Samuel & Susannah Lawrence of Groton died at Boston August 17, 1815 aged 27 years.

Sarah Lawrence, Wife of Amos Lawrence, died in Boston January 14, 1819 aged 28 years.

Samuel Lawrence died at Groton November 8, 1827 aged 73 years.

Mary Means Lawrence, daughter of Amos & Nancy Lawrence died at Boston December 8<sup>th</sup> 1828 aged 5 years 7 months and 23 days.

Giles Richards died at Dedham June 3, 1829 aged 75 years.

Mrs Susannah Lawrence wife of the late Samuel Lawrence Esq Died at Groton on friday evening May 2<sup>d</sup> 1845, aged eighty nine years and a half.

Mrs Sarah Richards wife of the late Giles Richards died at Roxbury in the same house in which she was born, April 12, 1836, aged 67 years (sixty seven) (The house of the late Dr Porter, now of his nieces Mrs Dilliway & Miss Porter). (June 1844)

Luther Lawrence, Mayor of the city of Lowell was killed on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 1839 by a fall into a wheel-pit of one of the Middlesex companies mills, aged 60 years.

Mrs Susanna Mason, daughter of Amos Lawrence, died in Salem December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1844, the tenth day after giving birth to twins, aged twenty seven years & a half.

Amos Lawrence of Boston died at his own house Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 1852.

Mrs Nancy Lawrence, wife of Amos Lawrence, died in Boston Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> 1866.

William Richards Lawrence died at Swampscott September 20<sup>th</sup> 1885.

Amos Adams Lawrence died at Nahant August 22<sup>d</sup> 1886.

Extracts from the oldest volume of the records of Plainfield, Conn.:—

Sarah Lawrance the daughter of Daniell Lawrance and Sarah his wife was born October 7<sup>th</sup> 1709.

Sarah Lawrance the wife of Daniell Lawrance deceased January 26th 1711/12.

Daniel Lawrance and Hannah jewell married nouember the 5<sup>th</sup> 1712.

Dainel Lawrance a Daughter born july the 22 1713. Her name is marye.

Nathaniel Lawrance son of Daniel Lawrance & Hana his wife Borne octobr the 28th, 1714.

Gidean Lawrance Son of Dainel Lawrance and Hanah his wife Borne March the 15th 1716/7.

Hana Lawrance Daughter of Daniel Lawrance and Hana his wife Borne Septemb<sup>r</sup> the 22. 1718.

Ruth Lawrance Daughter of Daniel Lawrance and Hanah his wife Borne July the 11<sup>th</sup> 1720.

daniel Lawrance and sarah Williams Was maried y<sup>e</sup> 4th day of march 1724/5.

Elizabeth Lawrance Dafter of Dainel Lawrance and Sarah his wife was born The 6th Day of January 1725/6.

anne lawrrance Dafter of Dainel lawrance and Sarah his wife Born august 22, 1727.

Anne lawrrance Daughter of Daniel lawrance and Sarah his wife Dec[ea]sed Decemb<sup>r</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1728

hester lawrrance Dafter of Daniel lawrrance and Sarah his wife born febry y<sup>e</sup> 10 day 1728/9

Elis Lawrance Dafter of Daniel lawrance and Sarah his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 19th day of april 1731.

Eunis lawrance Dafter of Daniel lawrance and Sarah his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 1733 and Departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 29.

Hannah lawrance Dafter of Daniel lawrance and hannah his wife Departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 18th day of May 1733.

Nathaniel lawrance Son of Daniel lawrance and Hannah his wife Departed this life the second day of June 1733.

John Lawrance son of Dainel lawrance and Sarah his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>th</sup> day of January 1735/6.

Asa lawrance son of Dainel lawrance and Sarah his Wife Born June the 1<sup>th</sup> day 1738.

Thomas Lawrance son of Joseph Lawrance and marye his wife Born February the 1<sup>st</sup> 1714/15.

mary lawrrance Daught<sup>r</sup> to Joseph Lawrrance and mary his wife born January y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1727/8.

Daniel Lawrrance Jun<sup>r</sup> and Rachel Kingsbury was married may 31 day 1725.

Rachel lawrrance Daughter to Daniel lawrrance Jun<sup>r</sup> and Rachel his Wife woz Born apriel the 6th 1726.

Gidon Lawrrance son to Daniel Lawrrance Jun<sup>r</sup> and Rachiel his Wife Wos Born nouembier the 21<sup>th</sup> 1727.

Sibel lawrance Dafter of Daniel lawrance Jun<sup>r</sup> and Rachel his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 6 day of September 1729.

Sarah lawrance Dafter of Daniel lawrance Jun<sup>r</sup> & Rachel his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 15th of april 1731.

Rachiel lawrance Dafter of Daniel lawrance Jun<sup>r</sup> and Rachiel his wife Departed this life Septem<sup>r</sup> 8 day 1729.

nathaniel lawrance son of Daniel lawrance Jun<sup>r</sup> and Rachel his wife Born y<sup>e</sup> 21 day of June 1733.

Ruefas lawrance Son of daniel larence Jun<sup>r</sup> and Rachel his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> of august 1735.

Joseph Williams was married to Susannah the daughter of Peleg Lawrans of Grotten the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 1710.

Jeremiah Lawrance and olive Wheeler married y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>th</sup> day of february 1729.

Nehemiah Lawrance Son of Jeremiah lawrance and oliue his wife Born march y<sup>e</sup> 18 day 1730.

Joseph parkhurst and Sarah Lawrance married January y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> day 1730/31.

Isaac Lawrance and lydia Huet married y<sup>e</sup> 19 day of Decembr<sup>r</sup> 1727.

Jonas lawrance son of Isaac Lawrance & Lydia his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>th</sup> Day of Decembr 1728.

Esubah Lawrance Dafter of Isaac lawrance and Lydia his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> day of decembr<sup>r</sup> 1739. [1729]

Steuven lawrance son of Isaac larence and lydia his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 26 of October 1732 and Departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 1 day of January 1733/4.

amey Lawrance Dafter of Isaac Lawrance and Lydia his wife Born Decembr<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> day 1734.

Isaac Lawrance Son of Isaac lawrance and lydia his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> of march 1737.

Josiah Lawrance son of Josiah lawrance & Sarah his wife Born y<sup>e</sup> 22 day of march 1733.

gidon lawrance & Unis parkhurst was married the first day of august 1738.

hannah lawrance dafter of gidon lawrance and unis his

wife born y<sup>e</sup> 18 day of Septembr 1739 and departed this life y<sup>e</sup> 13 day of decembr 1739.

Unis lawrance dafter of gidon lawrrance and unis his wife born y<sup>e</sup> 12 day of febury 1741.

nathaniel Lawrance son to Gideon Lawrance and Eunis his Wife Born Septem y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1743

Gideon Lawrance son to Gideon Lawrance and Eunis his Wife Born March y<sup>e</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1746.

mary Lawrance dafter of Gideon Lawrance and Eunis his Wife Born April y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1748.

Deborah Lawrance dafter of Gideon Lawrance and Eunis his Wife Born february y<sup>e</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1749/50.

From the oldest volume of the town records of Plainfield: —

“At a Town meeting legualy wored in plainfield Decem-ber y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>th</sup> day, 1730, for chusing Town oficers, Isaac Lawrance, Jeremiah lawrance [and] Daniel lawrance Jun<sup>r</sup> [were] Recived Inhabitance and [allowed] liberty of voting in Town afairs.”

The above named were sons of Daniel, and grand-sons of Enosh Lawrence.

From Massachusetts Revolutionary Muster-Rolls (vol. xxiv. p. 56): —

“An abstract for Pay Due to Capt. Isaac Woods company in Coll<sup>o</sup>. Jon<sup>a</sup>. Reeds Reg<sup>t</sup> of Guards at 40/ pr month as a bounty for y<sup>e</sup> Gaurds at Cambridge Engaged for 3 month From the 1st of April 1778 taken to the 3<sup>d</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5 of July, 1778.”



Among the rank and file of this company appear the names of Levi Lawrance, Will<sup>m</sup> Laurance, Thomas Laurance, Isaac Laurance, Nath<sup>l</sup> Laurance, and Ezekiel Laurance. Of these Levi was probably a son of Jonathan of Groton, and grandson of Thomas of Cambridge Farms and Groton; and William was probably a son of Samuel, and grandson of Major Eleazer Lawrence.

It is likely that Thomas and Isaac were sons of Nathaniel, jun., of Groton, and great-grandsons of Enosh. Thomas had a son Ezekiel, at this time about sixteen years old.

Col. Jonathan Reed of Littleton was a son of Major Benjamin Reed of Lexington, and was born March 8, 1729. He married, in 1752, Sarah, a daughter of Jonathan Lawrence, elder brother of Capt. Amos Lawrence of Lexington and Groton. Their oldest child Sarah married, in 1769, Timothy, a son of Deacon Jonathan Lawrence of Littleton. A great-grandson of Timothy, Lyman Lawrence, is now a resident of Lexington. Col. Jonathan Reed served as selectman, assessor, and town clerk of Littleton. The following is from the records of that town:—

“August y<sup>e</sup> 27, 1787, gave Jonathan Reed Esq an order for bording m<sup>r</sup> David Lawrence schoolmaster Nine weeks and one third of a week two pounds, eighteen shillings & sixpence in full for Bording said Lawrence as p<sup>r</sup> his act.”

Col. Reed died Nov. 8, 1790; and his wife, Sarah Lawrence Reed, died June 14, 1803.

From the Littleton, Mass., records : —

#### MARRIAGES.

September 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1754. Jonas Lawrence of Canaan and Triphenia Lawrence of Littleton.

October 10<sup>th</sup>. 1754. Jonathan Lawrence of Littleton and Lydia Fletcher of Groton.

August 29<sup>th</sup>. 1754. William Stearns and Betty Lawrence both of Littleton.

July 27<sup>th</sup>. 1758. Asa Lawrence of Pepperell and Abigail King of Littleton.

March y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1761. Then the intentions of marriage were Published between m<sup>r</sup> Isaac Spaulding of Westford and mi<sup>s</sup> Susanna Lawrance of Littleton.

Littleton, September y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>. 1761. Then m<sup>r</sup> Parker Dale and mi<sup>s</sup> Abigail Lawrence both of Littleton were joyned in marriage by y<sup>e</sup> Reverend m<sup>r</sup> Daniel Rogers of Littleton by a Certifycate under his hand.

(The banns had been published May 23, 1761.)

Littleton. July 29<sup>th</sup> 1769. The Intentions of Mariage between Simon Lawrence of Littleton & Sibil Robbins of Westford & Timothy Lawrence of Littleton & Sarah Read of s<sup>d</sup> Littleton were published on the aboue Day.

Littleton. Nouember y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> : 1769. Then m<sup>r</sup> Timothy Lawrance and mi<sup>s</sup> Sarah Reed, both of Littleton were joyned in marriage by y<sup>e</sup> Reverend m<sup>r</sup> Daniel Rogers as by a certificate under his hand.

May y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1771. Then the intentions of marriage were Published between m<sup>r</sup> John Lawrance of Littleton and mi<sup>s</sup> Hannah Davis of Acton.

Littleton June 24<sup>th</sup> 1780. Then the Intentions of marriage was Entred between m<sup>r</sup>. William Lawrence of Littleton and mi<sup>s</sup> Rhoda Wheeler of Ashby. June 24<sup>th</sup>. 1780.

Then the Intentions of marriage was entered between m Wm. Solomon Lawrence of Canaan and m<sup>is</sup> Esther Dutton of Littleton. [Married Oct. 12, 1780.]

Littleton. Decem<sup>r</sup> 13. 1794. Then the Intention of Marriage was Entered and made public between Titus Tuttle of Littleton & Phillis Lawrence of Littleton.

Titus Tuttle & Phillis Lawrence both of Littleton were joined in Marriage by Sampson Tuttle Esq. Jan<sup>y</sup> 6. 1797.

From the Middlesex County records (Groton Historical series, No. XIII.):—

“Jonathan Lawrence of Littleton & Lydia Fletcher of Groton were joyned in marriage by the Rev<sup>d</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. Dan<sup>l</sup>. Rogers of Littleton by his Certificate under his hand Oct<sup>o</sup>. 10: 1754.”

From the records of the Proprietors of Littleton :—

Midd<sup>x</sup> ss. July 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1755.

Capt David Lawrance Took the Oath relating to the Bills of Credit of the Neighbouring Govr<sup>mts</sup> and the oath of the faithful Discharge of the Office of Collector for the proprietors of Littleton to which he was chose y<sup>e</sup> Second (2) day of June last

Before me

Nath<sup>l</sup> Russell

Just. Pac.

A true entry

Abel Prescott

Prop<sup>r</sup> Clerk.

From the Littleton town records :—

April y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1773.

We, Amos Lawrance & Isaac Farnsworth Selectmen for Groton & Jonathan Lawrance, Eleazer Lawrance & Josiah

Hartwell, appointed by the select men of Littleton to Preambulate y<sup>e</sup> Line between said towns have this day attended to s<sup>d</sup> businefs & Joyntly agreed to renew y<sup>e</sup> bounds

Amos Lawrance	}
Isaac Farnsworth	
Jonathan Lawrance	}
Eleazer Lawrance	
Josiah Hartwell	

Memoranda relating to the Lawrences of Littleton, Mass. (from documents belonging to the estate of the late Samuel Smith, Esq., of that town): —

March 7th, 1736. Major Eleazer Lawrence and others were chosen a committee to build a stone wall around the Littleton burying-ground.

Lawrences admitted to full communion in the Church at Littleton previous to 1755: —

Peleg and his wife Ruth; Jonathan, Experience, and Lucy, daughter of Eleazer.

Members of the family who paid taxes in Littleton in the year 1751: —

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Major Eleazer,	20,	11,	7;	Captain David,	21,	1,	3;
Jonathan	12,	1,	8;	Eleazer Junior,	51;	6,	$\frac{1}{2}$ .

Jonathan Lawrence, jun., enlisted as a soldier during King George's war (1748).

In 1775 Isaac Lawrence enlisted in the American army.

July 10, 1776. Captain David Lawrence and Ensign Fletcher hired Timothy Baker as a substitute, and paid him  
£. s.  
13, 16.

Deacon Jonathan, Timothy and Simon Lawrence hired as a substitute a man named Lincoln. The latter failed to appear, and the quota was therefore one short.

Dec. 2, 1776. "For reinforcing the Continental army, Deacon Jonathan and Timothy hired Jonathan Lawrence and gave him 9." £.

September, 1777. Thirty-days men: Timothy and Simon Lawrence.

Money and clothing contributed for the Continental army:—

April, 1778. Timothy Lawrence gave one pair of shoes; Captain David one pair of socks and a shirt; Deacon Jonathan gave one shirt and Samuel two pairs of socks.

July, 1778. For "volunteer service" Captain David paid  
 £  
 14. For the nine months men in Rhode Island in 1779,  
 £. £. £.  
 Eleazer paid 10; Deacon Jonathan 12; Captain David 24;  
 £ £ £.  
 Samuel 45; Timothy 10; and Joseph 6.

From the Records of the First Congregational (Unitarian) Church, Littleton, Mass.:—

Persons admitted to full Communion.

Peleg Lawrence. Ruth ye Wife of Peleg Lawrence. The Wife of Eleazer Lawrence Jr. Jonathan Lawrence. Eleazer Lawrence. Experience Lawrence.

Sept. 1. 1754. Lucy Lawrence ye Daughter of Eleazer Lawrence.

Dec<sup>r</sup>. 27. 1761. Captain David Lawrence.

Nov<sup>r</sup>. 26. 1780. The Widow Martha Lawrence

June 8<sup>th</sup>. 1788. David Lawrence J<sup>ur</sup>.

1793. April 11<sup>th</sup>. Received to our watch and fellowship Patty wife of David Lawrence recommended to us by letter from the Church in Lincoln.

1813. Sept<sup>r</sup>. 2. At a regular Meeting of the Church for the purpose of choosing Deacons, the Church Voted

1<sup>st</sup> To chuse two persons to serve as Deacons in this Ch'h.

2<sup>nd</sup> They proceeded and made choice of Brother David Lawrence and Brother John Hartwell as Deacons, who accepted their election into s<sup>d</sup> office.

Persons that owned the Covenant.

Jan'y 8 1737/8 Sam<sup>l</sup> Lawrence & his wife.

March 31, 1754 Abel Lawrence & his wife ownd ye Covt.

July 1770 Simon Lawrence and his wife own<sup>d</sup> ye Covt.

September 1771 Timothy Lawrence & his wife owned ye Covt.

June 19 1772 Jn<sup>o</sup> Lawrence and Hannah his wife ownd ye Covt & had y<sup>r</sup> Child baptized.

July 23 1775 Joseph Lawrence & his wife owned ye Covt.

March 8 1746 The wife of Peleg Lawrence was dismissed to ye Chh in Groton

Nov 2 1746 Peleg Lawrence was dismissed in order to his being laid in ye foundation of a 2 Chh in Groton.

#### MARRIAGES.

May 5 1737 Sam<sup>l</sup> Laurence of Littleton was married to Mary Hildrech of Westford.

April 3 1740 Jabez Keep of Westford and Experience Lawrence of Littleton were joined in marriage.

July 1751 Jonathan Lawrence & Martha Leighton were joined in marriage.

February 20, 1745 Thomas Cuminge of Westford & Lucy Lawrence of Littleton were joined in marriage.

Sept. 15 1761 Parker Dole & Abigail Lawrence were joynd in marriage

Oct. 15 1761 Isaac Spaulding of Westford & Susanna Lawrence of Littleton were joynd in marriage

Jany. 21 1762 Jonathan Fletcher Jun<sup>r</sup> of Westford & Mary Lawrence of Littleton were joynd in marriage.

Sept. 28 1768 Sam<sup>l</sup> Clark of Westminster & Lucy Lawrence of Littleton were joynd in marriage.

Jany, 29 1769 Daniel Stone of Groton & Martha Lawrence of Littleton were joynd in marriage.

Tim Lawrence & Sarah Reed both of Littleton were joynd in marriage on ye 30 of November 1769.

John Lawrence of Littleton & Hannah Davis of Acton on June 27 1771 were joynd in marriage.



Dec<sup>r</sup> 6 1774 Joseph Lawrence of Littleton & Mercy Wetherbee of Stow were joined in marriage.

October 12 1780 William Solomon Lawrence of Canaan & Esther Dutton of Littleton were joined in marriage.

Dec<sup>r</sup>. 20 1790 Mr. Stephen Tucker, to Miss Sybbel Lawrence [of] Littleton

Feb<sup>y</sup> 24 1795 Reuben Lawrence of Ashby to Miss Lois Tenney of Littleton

Feb. 23 1797 Mr. Elnathan Lawrence of Asby to Miss Mary Tenney of Littleton.

May 9<sup>ht</sup> 1798 Mr. Willard Flint to Miss Polly Lawrence both of Littleton.

Feb. 26 1801 Mr. Solomon Fletcher to Miss Dorcas Lawrence both of Littleton.

#### BAPTISMS.

May 12, 1793. George, Son of David Lawrence and wife.

Aug<sup>t</sup> 9<sup>th</sup>. 1795. Lovey, Daughter of David Lawrence & wife.

May 20, 1797. Hannah Adams, Daughter of David Lawrence & wife.

April 15, 1804. Henry, Son of David Lawrence and wife.

Sept<sup>r</sup> 11, 1803. Rec<sup>d</sup> to Gospel privileges, Nancy Lawrence.

From the Lexington, Mass., records : —

John Laurance son of John Laurance, & Anna his wife born June 10 : 1688.

John Laurance jun<sup>r</sup> & Elizabeth Stone were joyned in marriage in May 18 : 1710.

Elisabeth Laurance Daughter to John Laurance jun<sup>r</sup> & Elisabeth his wife born May 27 : 1711.

Elizabeth Laurenc Daughte[r] to John Lawrenc and Elizabeth his wiffe Born May y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1711. [Duplicate entry.]

John Laurance son of John Laurance jun<sup>r</sup> & Elisabeth his wife born September: 24: 1713

John Laurenc son to John Laurenc; and Elisabeth his wiffe was born: Septemb<sup>r</sup>: ye: 24<sup>th</sup>: 1713. [Duplicate entry.]

Sam<sup>ll</sup> Laurance son of John Laurance jun<sup>r</sup> & Elisabeth his wife born October 3: 1715.

Isaac Laurance son of John Laurance jun<sup>r</sup> & Elisabeth his wif & born november 27: 1717.

Ruth Laurance, Daughter to Sam<sup>ll</sup> & Elisabeth Laurance born jan<sup>y</sup> 21: 1725/6.

Thomas Hadle and Ruth Laurance both of Lexington where Joined in marriage April 15: 1741.

Jonathan Lawrance & Elisabeth Swain ware Joyned in marriage Feb<sup>r</sup>: 26: 1726/7.

Elizabth Lawrance Daughter to Jonathan & Elisabeth Lawrance Born Feb<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1727/8.

Elizabth Lawrence Ditto Decesd January 16<sup>th</sup>: 1732/3.

Mary Lawrance Ditto Born November 30: 1729.

Sarah Lawrance Ditto Born December 15<sup>th</sup> 1731.

Jonathan Lawrance Ditto Born february 5: 1733/4.

Bezaleel Lawrance Ditto Born April 13<sup>th</sup>: 1736.

Micah Lawrance Ditto Born March 15<sup>th</sup>: 1738/9.

Elizabth Lawrance Ditto Born December 17<sup>th</sup>. 1741.

Anna Lawrance Ditto Born March 19<sup>th</sup> 1745/6.

John Lawrance Ditto Born June 5<sup>th</sup>: 1748.

Benjamin Lawrance son to Jonathan & Elisabeth Lawrance born Sept. 13: 1750.

Bezaleel Lawrance & Sarah Muzzey both of Lexington were Joined in Marriage october ye 19: 1758.

Sarah Lawrence Daughter to Bezaleel Lawrence and Sarah his wife Born September ye 3<sup>d</sup> 1759.

Anna Lawrence Daughter to Bezalel Lawrence & Sarah his wife Born May ye 17: 1761.

Bezaleel Lawrence Son to Bezaleel Lawrence & Sarah his wife Born April ye 12 1763.

Esther Lawrence Daughter to Bezaleel Lawrence & Sarah his wife Born June y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1765.

Bethiah Lawrence Daughter to Bezaleel Lawrence and Sarah his wife Born September y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1767.

Jonas Lawrence Son to Bezaleel Lawrence & Sarah his wife Born Feb: ye 27<sup>th</sup> 1770.

Jonathan Lawrence son, to Bezaleel Lawrence & Sarah His Wife Born Septem<sup>r</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1774.

Thaddeus Bowman of Cambridge and Elizabeth Lawrence of Lexington where Joined in Marriage November y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1764.

John Hastings & Esther Lawrence both of Lexington Married Octo<sup>r</sup>. 7. 1784.

Jonathan Lawrance of Lexington & Polly Reed of Bedford were joined in Marriage April 12<sup>th</sup> 1798.

Polly Lawrance Daughter to Jonathan Lawrance & Polly his wife Born April 28<sup>th</sup> 1799.

Esther Lawrance Ditto Born April 23<sup>th</sup> 1801.

Abigail Lawrence born Nov<sup>r</sup>. 8<sup>th</sup> 1803.

Elizabeth Swain Lawrence Do born Sep<sup>r</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1807.

Abigail Lawrence died Dec<sup>r</sup>. 23. 1826.

Mr Bezaleel Lawrence Died February 6<sup>th</sup> 1796.

Mrs Sarah Lawrence Wife of the said B. Died Febr<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1819.

Mr Royal Stearns & Mifs Esther Lawrence [were married] May 2. 1824.

From the records of the First Parish, Lexington, Mass.; the Rev. John Hancock, pastor (1698-1752): —

July: 1700: Baptised Samuell Lawrence

I novembr<sup>r</sup>. 1702. Baptised Anna Lawrence.

24: Febr<sup>r</sup> 1705/6. Baptised Jonathan Lawrence.

20 June 1708 Baptised.     { Submitt Poulter.  
                                      { Sarah Lawrence.

31 May 1713     Baptised }  
                      admitted } Benjamin Lawrence.

19 febr<sup>r</sup> 1715/16 baptised Amos Lawrence.

[Children of John and Anna (Tarbell) Lawrence.]

3: June 1711: Baptised Elizabeth Lawrence.

27 Septemb<sup>r</sup> 1713. Baptised John Lawrence.

9 Octob<sup>r</sup> 1715 Samuel Lawrence was baptised at Lexington by M<sup>r</sup> Fox.

1 Decem<sup>br</sup> 1717: Baptised Isaac Lawrence.

14: Aug. 1720. Baptised }  
admitted } Anna Lawrence.

24: March 1723. Baptised }  
admitted } mary Lawrence.

20 March 1726 Baptised Nath<sup>l</sup> Lawrence.

21 Apr<sup>ill</sup> 1728 Baptised Rebekah Lawrence.

[Children of John Lawrence, jun., and Elizabeth (Stone), Lawrence.]

1 April. 1739. Baptized micah Lawrance of Jonathan Lawrence.

[The above entry is from records kept by the Rev. Ebenezer Hancock, associate pastor from 1734 to 1740.]

20 Decem: 1741. Baptised Elizabeth Lawrence of Jonathan Lawrence.

23 March 1746. Baptised Anna Lawrence.

19 June. 1748. Baptised John Lawrence.

16: Sept<sup>t</sup> 1750. Baptised Benj. Lawrence.

[Children of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Swain) Lawrence.]

At the Request of the Church of Christ in Groaton (*Nemine Contradicente*) I went up on 25. Novemb<sup>r</sup>: 1705 And Administred the holy ordinance of the Lords Supper to them & Baptised these persons following

Isaac Lawrence [son of Daniel and grandson of Enosh] [and 23 others].

20: Feb. 1725/6 Baptized Ruth Lawrence [daughter of Samuel and granddaughter of John of Lexington].

29: June 1735: Admitted Benj<sup>n</sup> Lawrence.

30 November 1735. Baptized Benjamin Lawrance, y<sup>e</sup> first Born of Benj<sup>a</sup> Lawrence.

[The last entry is from records of the associate minister.]

Sep 9 1759. Baptized Sarah Lawrence of Bezaleel & Sarah.

April 17. 1763. Baptized Bezaleel Lawrence, of Bezaleel.

July 7, 1765, Baptized Esther Lawrence of Bezaleel.

Oct<sup>r</sup>. 4. 1767. Baptized Bethiah Lawrence of Bezaleel.

[The last four persons were baptized by the Rev. Jonas Clarke, pastor from 1755 to 1805].

April 26, 1761, Baptized by the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Cushing Dinah, Negro — M<sup>r</sup> Lawrence's.

May 24, 1761. Baptized by the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Lawrence [of Lincoln] Anna Lawrence of Bezaleel.

1 Febr<sup>y</sup> 169<sup>o</sup>/, Receaved than Into the Communion of this church John Lawrence & his wife.

15 Aprill 1711. Admitted Elizabeth Lawrence to full communion [wife of John Lawrence, jun.].

22 Jan<sup>y</sup>. 1726. Admitted Jonathan Lawrence.

13 Aprill 1729. Dismissed Jonathan Lawrence to y<sup>e</sup> East Church in Sudbury.

9 January 1742/3 admitted { Jonathan  
Elizabeth

Lawrence by a letter of Dismission from y<sup>e</sup> East church In Sudbury.

14 Octobr 1750. Dismist Prudence Monro to m<sup>r</sup> Lawrence's Church.

April 4, 1756. Admitted Jonathan Lawrence junior into full Communion.

Nov. 14. 1756. Admitted Violet, Negro ser<sup>t</sup> to M<sup>r</sup> Jon<sup>a</sup> Lawrence, Her confession & relation being accepted by the Church. The same Day Baptiz'd Violet the above named Negro servant.

26: Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1747. Chose Jonathan Lawrence messenger for m<sup>r</sup> Trask's ordination at Keenborow.

24: Decemb<sup>r</sup> 1749. admitted mary Lawrence.

Mar. 26, 1758. admitted Bezaleel Lawrence into full Communion.

June 28, 1761. admitted Elizabeth Lawrence Jun<sup>r</sup>.

Nov. 4. 1764. Chose Deac<sup>n</sup> James Browne and Jonathan Lawrence for the ordination of M<sup>r</sup> Micah Lawrence at Winchester.

Jan. 25. 1767. Admitted John Lawrence into Communion [son of Jonathan and Elizabeth].

May 26. 1776, Dismiss'd { Jonathan Lawrence  
  { John Lawrence  
to the Christian Brethren at Ashby in order to gathering a Ch<sup>h</sup>.

Persons buried in Lexington with y<sup>e</sup> time when they Died

Deacon Lawrence 14-2 [April] 1724.

Anna Lawrence 19-10. 1732.

Jon<sup>than</sup> Lawrence's child 7-4. 1744.

John Lawrence 12-1 [March] 1747.

Eliz<sup>a</sup> Lawrence (Aet. about 90) 14 [April] 1768.

Wid. Elizabeth Lawrence, (A[e]t 83) 5-4. 1790.

Feb. 12. 1735. Married, Benj. Lawrence to Jane Russell.

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> 1750. Married, Abijah Smith & Mary Lawrence.

Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> 1758. Married, Bezaleel Lawrence & Sarah Muzzy of Lexington.

Nov. 7. 1764. Married Thaddeus Bowman & Elizabeth Lawrence both of Lexington.

Nov. 15. 1781. Married, John Smith & Sarah Lawrence, both of Lexington.

April 6. 1785. Married, Ebenezer Lawrence of Woburn and Hannah Estabrook of Lexington.

May 2. 1824. Married, Royal Stearns to Esther Lawrence.

April 30. 1829. Married, William H. Piper to Elisabeth S. Lawrence.



From the Lincoln, Mass., records : —

Lovey Lawrence, daughter of the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> William Lawrence & M<sup>rs</sup> Love Larence his wife was Born April y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> day 1754.

Doc<sup>r</sup> Joseph Adams of Townshend and M<sup>rs</sup> [Miss] Lovey Lawrence of Lincoln, their intention of marraige has Been Published in Lincoln according to Law and a Certificet given

p<sup>r</sup> John Adams  
Town Clerk.

September y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1774.

Lovey Adams Daughter of Doc<sup>r</sup> Joseph Adams Jun<sup>r</sup> and M<sup>rs</sup> Lovey Adams his wife was Born on y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> : Day of September A : D : 1775 and Died June y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> : A : D : 1776.

Abel Lawrence, son of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr William Lawrence and M<sup>rs</sup> Love Lawrence his wife was Born August y<sup>e</sup> 23 day<sup>e</sup> A.D. 1771.

From the Records of the Church of Christ in Lincoln, Mass. ; the Rev. William Lawrence, A.M., pastor from 1748 to 1780 : —

Rec<sup>d</sup>. into Ch<sup>h</sup> fellowship

1748. Dec<sup>r</sup>. 7. M<sup>r</sup>. Wm Lawrence his Dismission from y<sup>e</sup> 1 Ch<sup>h</sup> in Cambridge Being First Read & Rec<sup>d</sup>.

1750. Nov<sup>r</sup> 11<sup>th</sup>. Love Adams.

April 17. 1757. Joseph Adams with his Wife.

#### BAPTIZED.

1752. Apr<sup>l</sup> 12. William Son of y<sup>e</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Lawrence and Love his wife.

1754. April 21<sup>th</sup>. Lovey Daughter of W<sup>m</sup> Lawrence & Love his wife.

1755. Dec<sup>r</sup>. 28<sup>th</sup>. John Prescott Son of y<sup>e</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup>. W<sup>m</sup> Lawrence & Love His Wife.

1758. Jan<sup>y</sup> 8. Susanna D[a]ughter of M<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. Lawrence Pastor of This Ch<sup>h</sup> and Love his Wife.

1762. Sept<sup>r</sup>. 5<sup>ht</sup>. Phebe Daughter of W<sup>m</sup> Lawrence Pastor of this Ch<sup>h</sup> and Love his Wife.

1764. March 18. Anna Daughter of W<sup>m</sup> Lawren[ce] Pastor of This Ch<sup>h</sup> & Love his Wife.

1767. Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1. Mary Daughter of y<sup>e</sup> Pastor of this Ch<sup>h</sup>. & Love his Wife.

1771. Aug<sup>t</sup> 25<sup>th</sup>. Abel Son of W<sup>m</sup> Lawrence Pastor of This Ch<sup>h</sup> & Love his Wife.

Rec<sup>d</sup>. into Ch<sup>h</sup>. fellowship

1774. Aug<sup>t</sup>. 21. Lovey Lawrence oldest Daughter of the Pastor of this Ch<sup>h</sup>.

Aug 3<sup>d</sup> 1783. Sarah Lawrence, Susannah Lawrence, Phœbe Lawrence, Anna Lawrence and Mary Lawrence.

#### MARRIED.

Nov<sup>r</sup>. 23. 1774. Doc<sup>r</sup>. Joseph Adams to M<sup>rs</sup> Lovey Lawrence.

#### BAPTIZED.

1775. Oct<sup>r</sup>. 1. Lovey, daughter of Doc<sup>r</sup>. Joseph Adams and Lovey his wife and granddaughter of y<sup>e</sup> Pastor of this Ch<sup>h</sup>.

Dec<sup>r</sup>. 26. 1779. Thus far the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Lawrence who died Apriel. 11: 1780:

#### MARRIED.

1783. Oct<sup>r</sup>. 30<sup>th</sup>.

{ M<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Bass of Braintree to Miss Sally Lawrence of  
Lincoln.  
{ The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Edmund Foster of Littleton to Miss Phœbe  
Lawrence of Lincoln.

1790. Dec<sup>r</sup>. 23<sup>d</sup>. Mr David Lawrence of Littleton to Miss Patty Adams of Lincoln.

From the "Records of Births deaths and Maryages:&: C:for the toune of Wooburne In the County of Midlesix in the Masathusets Colany In Nue England from the ycer of our Lord Jesus Christ (1641) [.] note heer also y<sup>t</sup> the ycer begins on the first day of March Annually:" —

## BIRTHS.

Olive Lawrence, daughter of Nathaniel and Bathsheba, March 24, 1749.

Jonathan Lawrence, son of Jonathan and Rachel, May 24, 1752.

Joseph Lawrence, son of Jonathan and Rachel, November 12, 1754.

Ebenezer Lawrence, son of Jonathan and Rachel, October 16, 1757.

Jonathan Lawrence, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth, December 11, 1758.

Rachel Lawrence, daughter of Jonathan and Rachel, October —, 1760.

Elizabeth Lawrence, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth, April 26, 1761.

Benjamin Lawrence, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth, May 28, 1764.

Nathaniel Lawrence, son of Jonathan and Rachel, July 2, 1764.

Dorcas Lawrence, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth, September 7 [?], 1766.

Ruth Lawrence, daughter of Jonathan and Rachel, February 12, 1767.

Micah Lawrence, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth, August 22, 1769.

William Johnson Lawrence, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth, January 1, 1773.

Ebenezer Lawrence, son of Ebenezer and Hannah, June 5, 1785.

Joseph Lawrence, son of Ebenezer and Hannah, September 23, 1788.

Nathaniel Lawrence, son of Ebenezer and Hannah, July 12, 1791.

Jonathan Lawrence, son of Ebenezer and Hannah, June 8 [?], 1794.

Melicent Lawrence, daughter of Ebenezer and Hannah, May 17, 1796.

#### MARRIAGES.

Thomas Ditson of Billerica and Elizabeth Lawrence of Woburn, June 22, 1732.

Elisha Tottingham and Sarah Lawrence, both of Woburn, May 27, 1736.

John Lawrence and Mary Simonds, October 23, 1736.

William Tuttle and Mary Lawrence, May 30, 1738.

James Simonds and Anna Lawrence, May 12, 1740.

Thomas Locke of Lexington and Rebecca Lawrence of Woburn, June 27, 1751.

Jonathan Lawrence, jun., and Elizabeth Johnson, December 13, 1757.

Jonas Lawrence of Lexington and Dorcas Wood of Woburn.

John Attwood entered his Intentions of Marriage with Elizabeth Lawrence, both of Woburn, July 3, 1751.

#### DEATHS.

Nathaniel Lawrence, January 6, 1737.

John Lawrence, January 22, 1752, aged 63 years.

Jonathan Lawrence, August 1, 1793, 67 years.

Jonathan Lawrence, May 16, 1795, aged 1 year.

Rachel Lawrence, widow of Jonathan, April 21, 1823, 93 years.

Hannah Lawrence, wife of Ebenezer, November 25, 1835,  
75 years.

Joseph Lawrence, February 8, 1836, 81 years.

Deacon Ebenezer Lawrence, January 12, 1842, 84 years.

NOTE. — In order to render the above list complete, certain extracts, previously overlooked, were supplied from duly attested copies (not *verbatim*) prepared by a town official. With a view to uniformity, the spelling has been modernized.

From the Woburn records: —

Abstracts from Public Records Relating to the Early Plantation at Woburn.

I (From Charlestown Records) 1643: "The 30: of the X month. (Margin) John Lawrance grant<sup>d</sup> a Lott on Mistick side & / & 15 acres towards / Wobourne./

(Text.) John Lawrance was granted John Seers Lott on Mistick s[i]d[e] if it be / not already disposed of, & Likewise 15 Acres towards the Village./"

Taken in Damage and Impounded by John Lawrance Jun<sup>r</sup> of Woburn August ye 28<sup>th</sup> 1734 a cartain darke bay mair colt with a stair in ye forehead and a littel peice cutt out of ye under sid[e] of ye near eare and is Judged to be Two years old.

Entred August ye 30<sup>th</sup> 1734

p<sup>r</sup> John Fowle Town Clerke.

From the records of the Second Precinct of Woburn (afterwards Burlington): —

[These records are kept at the house of Samuel Sewall, Town Clerk, whose father was the author of the "History of Woburn." In this house the patriots John Hancock and Samuel Adams took refuge on the morning of April 19, 1775.]

“ At Lexentown Nouember the fi[r]st, 1730, John Larrance, Collector [and the other] precinct officers Ware Sworn Before frances Boman es<sup>d</sup> one of His majestes Justeses of ye peece.”

From the records of the Second Parish of Woburn (Burlington):—

“ Dec<sup>r</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1735. Elizabeth Lawrance was admitted being dismiss'd from Lexington.”

From the Westborough, Mass., records:—

Benjamin Laurence was Born of Benjamin Laurence and Jane his wife Novmb<sup>r</sup> 22 1735.

Benjamin Laurence ye Son of Benjamin Laurence and Jane his wife Departed this Life October ye 13 1736.

Abigail Laurence was Born of Benjamin Laurence and Jane his wife August ye 20 1737.

Submit Larance was Born of Benj<sup>a</sup> Larance and Joan his wife July ye 29<sup>th</sup> 1739.

Elizabeth Larance was Born of Benj<sup>a</sup> Larance and Joan his wife March ye 7. 1741.

Annah Larance was Born of Benj<sup>a</sup> Larance and Joan his wife August ye 19, 1742

Joan Larance was born of Benj<sup>a</sup> Larance and Joan his wife March ye 2. 1745/6

From the Bolton, Mass., records:—

Amos, son of Benj. & Jane Laurence was born July 26<sup>th</sup> 1748.

Sarah, daughter of Benj. & Jane Laurence was born Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> 1750.

Jonathan son of Benj. & Jane Laurence was born Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> 1754.



## THE LAWRENCES OF KILLINGLY, CONN.

At about the time when Daniel Lawrence, a son of Enosh, and his family removed from Groton, Mass., to Plainfield, Conn., another person of the same name became a resident of the northerly part of the township, afterwards Killingly. Of the ancestry of this latter individual, we have no definite knowledge; but it is not probable that he was a descendant of John of Wisset, Eng. This Daniel Lawrence was an early member of the church in Killingly, and was living in that town in the year of its organization, 1708. No town records were kept until twenty years later; but in the record of land-grants at Danielsonville, we find that "David Russell of Killingly sold to Daniell Lawrance, husbandman [May 15, 1711] a cartaine tract or parcell of land att a cartaine place called Wood-hill," containing one hundred acres.

Again, on Dec. 8, 1718, Daniel Lawrence bought of Samuel Spaulding "ye one half of a Right of a hundred acre division of land in Killingly which lyeth in the purchase of land bought by the Plainfield men of Oweneco."

On the first page of the oldest volume of the town records is the following:—

[1708] "Daniel Lawrence chosen surveyor of highways." "It was then voted that the bridg over the littel River in Daniel Lawrences field to be a cart Bridg."

"At a meeting of the Inhabitents of Killingly Convened togather on the first tuesday of December, 1732; Chose Edward Convers Constable; and he hiered Daniel Lawrance to serve in his Rome and the town Accepted of him and he is sworn."

“At a Town Meeting held at the public Meeting-house in y<sup>e</sup> South Society in S<sup>d</sup> Town on y<sup>e</sup> third tuesday of January 1734/5, Then Voted to pay M<sup>r</sup> Daniel Lawrence 12<sup>s</sup>/9<sup>d</sup> for his warning the Graves's, Thoit & Bliss out of this Town & traveling after Hepsibah Mackintier to warn her out of town & returning y<sup>e</sup> writ.”

Daniel Lawrence died April 8, 1747, leaving several sons. The following item (Killingly town records, vol. i. p. 4) refers to one of them : —

“Daniel Lawrance [jun.] and Marey Abbe, both of this town ware Joyned to gather in marriage by the Rev<sup>d</sup>. M<sup>r</sup> James Hale of Ashford the 22<sup>d</sup> of Sept. 1731.”

In the records of the First Parish or North Ecclesiastical Society, formerly of Killingly, now of Putnam, Conn., is —

“An Acc<sup>t</sup>. of the Names of those with Respect to whom Lett<sup>r</sup> Recom : & Dismissory have been obtained for y<sup>e</sup> more Orderly Translation & Pertaking of Speciale Privilidges with y<sup>e</sup> ch<sup>h</sup> of Killingley :

Elizabeth Lawrence from Plainfield, May 13, 1721.

Marey wife of Dan<sup>ll</sup> Lawrence, Nov. 14. 1736.

Mr Cabot baptized Asa, y<sup>e</sup> Infant son of Dan<sup>ll</sup> & Marey Lawrence, May 20, 1743.

Renewed Covenant, Esther Daughter of Dan<sup>ll</sup> Lawrence [sen.] July 5. 1730.

Received to Full Communion, Dan<sup>ll</sup> Lawrence Oct. 15, 1738.

Baptized by R<sup>d</sup> M. Cutter, John y<sup>e</sup> Infant son of Dan<sup>ll</sup> & Mary Lawrence, Aug. 24. 1735.

Owned the covenant. Phebe wife of Elihu Lawrence, July 30. 1758.

Elihu Larance & Phebe Wilson, married March 4, 1756 by Aaron Brown.

Asa Lawrence & Lucy Joy, married Mar. 18, 1766.

Baptized. John, son of Elihu Lawrence, Aug. 6. 1758."

Daniel Lawrence, jun., was a member of the South Parish church in Killingly, when it was organized in 1746. Two of his sons, Elihu and Asa, are frequently mentioned in the town records. Deacon John Lawrence, who died in 1832, was a son of Elihu. Asa had a son Lyman. Mr. Horace Lawrence, now (1887) about eighty years old, and a resident of Killingly, is a son of Lyman Lawrence.

From the Killingly, Conn., records:—

Samuel Lawrence's mark for his Creatures is three slits in the under side of the left Ear. Entered June y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>. 1735.

[Samuel Lawrence was probably a younger brother of Daniel, sen.]

Daniel Lawrance's mark for his Creturs is a sort of a notch Like a saw Carf [carved] out of the under side of the near Eare. Entred the 4<sup>th</sup> day of november 1747.

Elihu Laurance Mark for his Creteers is a haole [hole] out of y<sup>e</sup> uper side of y<sup>e</sup> nigh Eare and a Sqiare Croke of y<sup>e</sup> same ere. Entred may y<sup>e</sup> 28 Day 1761.

Asa Lawrence Eare mark for his Creters is [a] Hole throw Each Eare Entered July the 7<sup>th</sup> Day 1768.

John Lawrence Ear Mark for his Creatures is a Swallers Tale in the Right Eare and Two Slits in the End of the Left Ear which was Ephraim Robbins mark Entered Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> Day 1786.

Killingly Registry of Deeds (Book I. p. 15):—

Nathaniel and Sarah Lawrence of Charlestown, Mass., convey an "Estate of Inheritance" to John Grover, September 16th, 1717.

From the Canaan, Conn., records:—

Gideon Lawrence Jun<sup>rs</sup> Eare mark for his Creatures is a smooth Crop off the Top of Each Ear. Aug 28. 1751.

Isaac Lawrences Eare mark for his Cretures is a square crop cut out of ye Left eare. Entered by David Wright Town Clerk, November 23<sup>d</sup> 1763.

Rufus Lawrence his Ear mark for his Creatures is a half Crop on the under side of the Left ear. Entered May ye 19th, 1766, p<sup>r</sup> Jonas Lawrence Reg<sup>r</sup>.

[Gideon and Rufus were sons of Daniel, jun., and Jonas was the eldest child of Capt. Isaac Lawrence.]

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"Thrice happy he whose name has been well spelt." — BYRON.

The family name is probably derived from the Latin Laurentius. It is now quite generally written *Lawrence*; but *Laurence*, *Laurance*, and *Lawrance* have also the sanction of reputable usage.

Many modifications in the spelling of the name are found in old records and legal documents, and a list of some of them is here given:—

Laurenc.	Laranc.	Loranc.
Lawranc.	Larranc.	Lorranc.
Lawrrance.	Larance.	Lorence.
Lawrrence.	Larenc.	Lorense.
Lawranse.	Larence.	Lorins.
Lauarance.	Larrence.	Lorinc.
Lawarnc.	Larence.	Laurrance.
Lawanace.	Larrance.	Lawriance.
Lawrans.	Larrans.	Laureance.
Lawrens.	Larraness.	Lawrince.
Larwance.	Larurnz.	Lauarnc.

---

From the records of Canaan, Conn. :—

Gideon Laurence of Canaan Married to Jerusha Richards of Norfolk the 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of October 1749

Asa Laurence Son to Gideon Laurence and Jerusha his Wife was Born October ye 7<sup>th</sup> 1750

Stephen Laurence Son to Daniel Laurence Ju<sup>r</sup> and Rachel his Wife was Born February ye 21<sup>st</sup> 1740/41

Loes Laurence Daughter to Daniel Laurence Ju<sup>r</sup> and Rachel his Wife was Born April the 12<sup>th</sup> 1743

Daniel Lawrence Son to Daniel Laurence Ju<sup>r</sup> and Rachel his Wife was Born August ye 30<sup>th</sup> 1748

Thomas Fellows of Canaan Married to Sarah Laurence of sd Canaan May ye Third 1750

Hannah Laurence Daughter of Isaac Laurence and Lidiah his wife was Born ye 25<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1750

Lidia Laurence Daughter to Isaac Laurence and Lidia his wife was Born Desember 2 1747

William Laurence Son of Isaac Laurence and Lidia his wife Deceased January ye 5<sup>th</sup> 1750.

Solomon Lawrence Son of Isaac Laurence and Lidia his Wife Deceased July ye 21<sup>st</sup> 1750

Nehemiah Laurence of Canaan was Married to Sarah Boardman of Sheffield by ye Rev<sup>nd</sup> Mr Hubbard ye 28 Day of November 1749

Asa Lawrence ye son of Isaac Laurence and Lidia his wife Deceased ye 24<sup>th</sup> Day of July 1750.

Lidia Lawrence ye Daughter of Isaac Laurence and Lidia his Wife Deceased ye 4<sup>th</sup> Day of August, 1750

Oliver Strong was married to Lois Laurence ye 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 1760

Lidiah Lawrence ye Daughter of Jonas Lawrence & Tryphena his Wife was born October ye 22<sup>nd</sup> Day 1756.

Lidiah Lawrence ye Daughter of Jonas Lawrence & Tryphena his Wife Departed this Life January ye 5<sup>th</sup> Day 1857

William Solomon Lawrence the Son of Jonas Lawrence & Tryphena his Wife was born ye 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1758

Nehemiah Laurence y<sup>e</sup> Son of Nehemiah Laurence & Elisabeth his Wife was Born June y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1757

Sarah Laurence y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Nehemiah Laurence & Elisabeth his Wife Was Born y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Day of July 1754

Jonas Lawrence was Married to Tryphena Lawren[ce] of Littleton on September y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 1754

Nehemiah Laurence was Married to Elisabeth Robbards y<sup>e</sup> 12 Day of April 1753 by M<sup>r</sup> Daniel Farrend.

Johnathan Laurence was Married to Bette Green y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Day of June 1756

Asa Laurence y<sup>e</sup> Son of Johnathan Laurence & Bette his Wife was Born April y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 1757

Bette Laurence y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Johnathan Laurence & Bette his Wife was Born y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 1759

Isaac Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup> was Married to Mary Brown of Stockbridge on y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> Day of March 1760

Elijah Cobb was Married to Amy Lawrence on y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Day of March 1760.

Abiah Laurence y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Jonas Laurence & Tryphena his Wife Was born November y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1760.

Lidiah Laurence y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Isaac Laurence & Mary his Wife Was Born September y<sup>e</sup> second Day 1761.

Elijah Lawrence y<sup>e</sup> Son of Isaac Laurence & Mary his Wife was Born y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> Day of October 1763

Abel Lawrence y<sup>e</sup> Son of Jonas Laurence & Tryphena his Wife was Born Septem<sup>r</sup>. y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1763

David Laurence was Married to Sarah Tubbs Septem<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1756

David Lawrence y<sup>e</sup> Son of David Lawrence & Sarah his Wife was born January y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Day 1758

Olive Lawrence y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of David Lawrence & Sarah his Wife was Born January y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1760

Nathan Laurence y<sup>e</sup> Son of David Lawrence & Sarah his Wife was Born January y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1762

Arial Lawrence y<sup>e</sup> Son of David Laurence & Sarah his Wife was Born January y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 1764



Johnathan Laurence the Son of Johnathan Laurence & Bette his Wife was Born February y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1762

Lydia Laurence the Daughter of Johnathan Laurence & Bette his Wife Was Born September y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1763

Abiram Lawrence the Son of Johnathan Laurence and Bette his Wife Was Born August 19<sup>th</sup> 1765

Willard Green Was Married to Eunice Laurence March y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1759

Sarah Lawrence the Daughter of Nathaniel Lawrence & Sarah his Wife Was Born February y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1759

Martha Laurence the Daughter of Nathaniel Laurence & Sarah his Wife was Born January y<sup>e</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1761

Anfon Laurence the Son of Nathaniel Laurence & Sarah his Wife was Born May y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1763

Sarah Laurence the Wife of Nathaniel Lawrence Deceased March y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1765 & in the 25<sup>th</sup> year of her age

Josiah Laurence the Son of Jonas Lawrence & Tryphena his Wife Was Born October y<sup>e</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1765

Lydia Laurence the Wife of Isaac Laurence Deceased November y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1767

Samuel Laurence the Son of Isaac Lawrence Jun<sup>r</sup> & Mary his Wife was Born November y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1765

Isaac Laurence the Son of Isaac Lawrence Jun<sup>r</sup> & Mary his Wife was Born November ye 22<sup>nd</sup> 1767

Olive Lawrence the Daughter of Johnathan Laurence & Bette his Wife was Born August y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1767

Tryphena Lawrence the Daughter of Jonas Laurence and Tryphena his Wife Was Born July the 4<sup>th</sup> 1768.

Mary Laurence Daughter to Isaac Lawrence Jr. and his wife was Born May y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> AD 1770

Ruluff Laurence Son to Johnathan Laurence and Bette his Wife was Born January y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> AD 1771

Olive Lawrence wife to Jeremiah Lawrence Deceased April y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> AD 1772

Jeremiah Lawrence was Married to Elifabeth Smith June y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> AD 1772

Apame Lawrence Daughter to Isaac Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup> and Mary his Wife was Born December y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1772

Elifabeth Lawrence Wife of Jeremiah Lawrence Departed this Life March y<sup>e</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1772

Jabes Lawrence Son to Jeremiah Lawrence and Elifabeth his Wife was Born March 24<sup>th</sup> 1772

Jeremiah Laurence was Married to Elifabith Higbee July y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> AD 1773

William Laurence Son to Jeremiah Laurence and Elifabeth his Wife was born October y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1774

Benjamine and Joseph Lawrence Sons to Johnathan Lawrence and Bette his Wife was Born may y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1774

Zimery [?] Laurence Son to Johnathan Laurence and Bette his Wife Was Born September ye 4<sup>th</sup> 1772

Afa Lawrence was Married to Lucy Miller January y<sup>e</sup> 1770

Eunice Laurence Daughter to Afa Laurence and Lucy his wife was born December ye 29<sup>th</sup> 1771

Jedediah Laurence Son to Afa Laurence & Lucy his Wife was born March ye 4<sup>th</sup> 1774

Abigail Laurence Daughter to Johnathan Laurence & Bette his Wife was born April y<sup>e</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1776

Putnam Laurence Son to Jeremiah Laurence & Elizabeth his [Wife] was born December ye 3<sup>rd</sup> 1776

Joseph Kingman was married to Sarah Laurence September 15<sup>th</sup> 1774

Henry Lawrence Son to Isaac Laurence Jur. and Mary his Wife was born February y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1778

Thomas Tubbs was married to Amy Lawrence Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 1779.

Roger Rood was married to Betty Laurence June ye 2<sup>d</sup> AD 1779

Charlotte Laurence Daughter to Jonas Lawrence and Tryfena his Wife was Born October ye 13, 1770.

Consider Laurence Son to Jonas Laurence and Tryfena his Wife was Born February y<sup>e</sup> 8, 1777

Bille Laurence Son to Jonas Laurence and Tryfena his Wife was Born January ye 31<sup>st</sup> 1779

William Solomon Laurence Was Married to Esther Dutton October 12<sup>th</sup> AD. 1780.

Experience, Daughter to W<sup>m</sup> Sol. Laurence & Esther his wife was Born July 28<sup>th</sup> 1781.

Jonas, Son to W<sup>m</sup> Sol. Laurence & Esther his Wife Was Born November 25<sup>th</sup> 1782

Erastus, Son to Isaac Laurence and Mary his wife was Born March 11<sup>th</sup> 1780.

Also Pamela Daughter to s<sup>d</sup> Isaac and Mary Laurence was Born May 17<sup>th</sup> 1782

Abel Laurence Was Married to Abigail Rockwell October the 6<sup>th</sup> 1783

Their Son Was still Born August 21<sup>st</sup> 1784.

A Son to Abel Laurence & Abigail his Wife was still Born December 25<sup>th</sup> 1785.

Elisha, Son to David Laurence and Sarah his Wife Was Born December 9<sup>th</sup> 1766.

Simon, Son to David Laurence and Sarah his Wife Was Born January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1768, & Died Jany 26<sup>th</sup> 1768

Sarah, Daughter to David Lawrence and Sarah his Wife was Born June 17<sup>th</sup> 1769

Joseph, Son to David Laurence & Sarah his Wife was Born June 7<sup>th</sup> 1771.

Phebe, Daughter to David Laurence & Sarah his Wife Was Born July 9<sup>th</sup> 1773.

Mary, Daughter to David Laurence and Sarah his Wife was Born August 7<sup>th</sup> 1775

Charry, Daughter to David Laurence & Sarah his Wife was Born September 18<sup>th</sup> 1782

Elisabeth Laurence Relict to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Nehemiah Laurence Departed this Life March 5<sup>th</sup> 1786

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Nehemiah Laurence Was Married to the Widow Abigail Sutton, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> 1786.

Jeremiah Son to Nehemiah Laurence & Elisabeth his Wife Born June 15<sup>th</sup> 1760.

Jeremiah Laurence Was Married to Phebe Stevens January 25<sup>th</sup> 1786.

Wolcott, Son to Jeremiah Laurence and Phebe his Wife was Born November 4<sup>th</sup> 1786.

Charlotte Daughter to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Nehemiah Laurence & Abigail his wife was Born Jany 11<sup>th</sup> 1788.

Thomas Tubbs, Married to Ame Laurence November 9<sup>th</sup> 1780.

Villa, Son to Nehemiah Laurence & Abigail his Wife Was Born Dec. 6, 1789 at one Oclock morn.

Silas, Son to Nathaniel Laurence and Elizabeth his wife Born September 26<sup>th</sup> 1774

Phebe Daughter to Nathaniel Laurence & Elizabeth his Wife was Born August 8<sup>th</sup> AD 1780.

Orrange, Son to William Solomon Laurence & Esther his wife was born February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1796

Eleanor Laurence was Born January 23<sup>rd</sup> 1762<sup>1</sup>

Josiah Laurences & Ama Rockwell's Births & Marriages, & their Children's Births

Josiah Laurence was born October 16<sup>th</sup> 1765.

Ama Rockwell was born May 4<sup>th</sup> 1762.

Josiah Laurence Was Married unto Ama Rockwell February 7<sup>th</sup> 1788.

Abiah Laurence Daughter of said Josiah and Ama was born Nov<sup>m</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1788.

Harvey Laurence Son of s<sup>d</sup> Josiah & Ama Was born March 19<sup>th</sup> 1791.

Abigail Laurence Daughter of s<sup>d</sup> Josiah and Ama was born January 29<sup>th</sup> 1793.

Betsey Laurence Daughter of s<sup>d</sup> Josiah & Ama was born Feb<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1799

<sup>1</sup> Eleanor Laurence married a Van Deusen. The births of her children are entered on record book at Canaan.

Charlotte Laurence Daughter of s<sup>d</sup> Josiah & Ama was born May 4<sup>th</sup> 1802.

Ama Laurence Died May 17<sup>th</sup> 1812.

Harvey Laurence Was Married unto Betsey Deming [Dunning] November 24<sup>th</sup> 1812 By Rev. Pitkin Cowles

Sereno B. Gillette was Married unto Abigail Lawrence December 30<sup>th</sup> 1812 by Rev<sup>d</sup> P. Cowles.

Nathaniel Laurence was Married unto Sarah Stevens Febr 11<sup>th</sup> 1796

Albert, Son to Nathaniel and Sarah Laurence, was born Dec<sup>m</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> 1797.

Lyman Son to Nathaniel & Sarah Laurence was born Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> 1801

Phebe, Daughter to Nathaniel & Sarah Laurence was born Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 1810

Nathan Laurence was Married unto Polly Waid January 27<sup>th</sup> 1787

George Son to said Nathan & Polly, was born Sept 8<sup>th</sup> 1791

Lewis, Son to s<sup>d</sup> Nathan & Polly was born February 21, 1793

Betsey, Daughter to s<sup>d</sup> Nathan & Polly was born Febr 5<sup>th</sup> 1797.

Lucy Daughter to s<sup>d</sup> Nathan & Polly was born June 14<sup>th</sup> 1799

Welthy, Daughter to s<sup>d</sup> Nathan & Polly was born July 29<sup>th</sup> 1801.

Leonard Son to s<sup>d</sup> Nathan & Polly was born Augus[t] 4<sup>th</sup> 1802

William Laurence was Married unto Lotta Rood October 7<sup>th</sup> 1801.

Laura Laurence Daughter to s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> & Lotta born Nov<sup>m</sup> 5 1802

Julia Daughter to s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> & Lotta born September 18<sup>th</sup> 1804.

William Son to s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> & Lotta born July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1806

Jane Daughter to s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> & Lotta born July 29<sup>th</sup> 1808

Mariah Daughter to s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> & Lotta born March 21<sup>st</sup>

1811

Frederic, Son to s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> & Lotta born August 15<sup>th</sup> 1813



## FAMILY REGISTER.

*Date.*

## FAMILY REGISTER.

*Date.*

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## FAMILY REGISTER.

*Date.*

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## FAMILY REGISTER.

*Date.*

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# FAMILY REGISTER.

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## APPENDIX.

[NUMBERS I. to XI., inclusive, are copies of original papers in the possession of the writer. The sources from which the remaining numbers were obtained are indicated in each case.]



## APPENDIX.

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### I.

THE lands of ensign nath: Lawrance as it is in y<sup>e</sup> town Records, pag[e] 79 of Groten —

1 His uplands, first his houslot ffiue acres mor or Lesse Bounded northerly with cap<sup>t</sup> Parker east with william Greene and on all other poynts with the towne co<sup>m</sup>on.

2 At Gibbet Hill thirty acres mor or lesse Bounded south with william Greene easterly and westerly with cap<sup>t</sup> Parker and on all other poynts with the towns h<sup>y</sup>e way —

3 At Indian hill west with Justin Holden east with Jn<sup>o</sup> morsse north with the h<sup>y</sup>e way south with the ends of the other lots

4 At tobacco pip[e] Playne fforty seaven acres mor or lesse Bounded northerly with Cap<sup>t</sup> Parker westerly with Ephraim ffilbrick part southeast with William Longley near dear medow and on all other poynts with the towns co<sup>m</sup>on the h<sup>y</sup>e way runing thorow it to pond and Long medow —

5 Entervai<sup>l</sup>l on the west sid of the River twelve acres more or lesse Bounded north with John Pag south with Justin holden easterly with the River westerly with the towns co<sup>m</sup>on —

6 Sixe acres mor or Lesse Bounded easterly with his owne medow westerly with the lands of Pelleg Lawrance and on all other poynts with y<sup>e</sup> towns co<sup>m</sup>on —

7 Seaven acres mor or lesse swamp medow and upland Bounded part easterly and southerly with the swamp of cap<sup>t</sup>

Parker easterly with the Land of William Greene and on all other poynts with the towns comon upland —

8 Sixty acres mor or Lesse fferty acres of it I bought of the town Bounded Round with the towns comon as the mark trees direct Lyeing southerly with Long meadow —

A committee chusen by the town to sell Land sold to ensign Lawrance two persels of Land near his hous conteining four acres mor or lesse beeing and Lyeing as followeth the one psell on the south sid[e] of the hyeway that goe to fflaggy meadow alowing the hyway four poll wid from william Greens Land this land is Bounded northerly by the aforesaid hyeway[,] easterly by the towns comon land[,] southerly partly by the swamp of Samuell Woods and p<sup>t</sup>ly by William Green[,] southwesterly by the sd Lawrances own Land the sd hyeway to be left 4 poll wid conteining the Length of William Greens Line and then the sd Lawrances land doe run with a slent by the great stump to his own fence near the bridg alowing William Green a hyeway to his meadow to fetch hay and the sd Lawrance is to maintain a sufficient pair of barrs or gate.

The other persell adioyning to his own houslot bounded southerly by y<sup>e</sup> hyeway leading to the town westerly and northerly by the Lands of cap<sup>t</sup> James Parker and easterly with the sd Lawrances owne Land this Land beeing satisfied for by the acknowledgment of the towne committe —

1 Meadow upon chelmsford Line ffive acres mor or lesse Bounded easterly with chelmsford Line west with Jonathan Sawtell and on all other poynts with the towns uplands —

2 In Rock meadow twelve acres mor or lesse with a slip of upland Bounded north with the Lands of John Barron and on all other poynts with the towns uplands —

3 At cowpond Brook ten acres mor or lesse Bounded northerly and westerly with a Brook and the meadow of James ffisk seni[or.] northerly with the cow-pond Brook and easterly with the meadow of Serg<sup>t</sup> Knop westerly with his own Land and on all other poynts with the towns upland —

4 At cowpond Brook two acres Bounded east northerly with the medow of Samuell Davis and on all other poynts with the towns upland and medow.

5 One acre at Brown Loaf Playn Bounded westerly with the Brook and on all other poynts with the towns uplands —

6 On the west sid[e] of the River near Sqoanacook River two acres mor or lesse Bounded southerly by the towns cõmon and on all other poynts by the Lands of cap<sup>t</sup> Parker as the marks specifie —

compared approued and confirmed by the committe according to the order of the town as Attest —

John Morsse cl[erk] March 3. 168 $\frac{3}{4}$

On the west sid[e] the River one hundred and twenty acres lyeing both sid[e]s of Nashua Brook Bounded west southerly [south-westerly ?] by the Lands of Nicholas Cady and on all other poynts on the towns cõmon as the mark trees direct

compared aproued and confirmed by the selectmen according to the order of the town — as Attest

John Morss cl<sup>a</sup> no[v] 29 1684.

the Lands of ensigne nathanill Lawarance.

8. sixty accors more or Less fforty of it bought of the town Bounded round with the towns common as the mark trees diract Lying southerly with Longe medow

Compared aproued and confirmed by the commety according to the order of the town ás Atest

John Morss ; Cl :

March : 3 ± 168 $\frac{3}{4}$

A tru copy out of the town Book of groton of sd lands as atast

Joseph Lakin  
town clark for Groton.

more lands of ensign nathanell Lawranc

1 fouerteen accers bee it more or leess upland & Swammp & boushey medow lyeing ner Spetchell pond boounded part northerly with his one [own] land part northe[r]ly & west[e]rly with the lands of william Longly decesed ; part southerly by y<sup>e</sup> lands of Cap<sup>t</sup> James Parker ; part e[a]ste[r]ly by the lands of Jonas Pr<sup>escot</sup> and Thomas Tarball & on all other points by Spetchell Pond & towns Common upland : y<sup>e</sup> which land was layed out [to] him in lue [lieu] of his ginerell feeld lots & three accers of medow which he wanted of his proposhan in his two lots,

2 nin[e] accers bee it more or leess swamp & low land with so much medow aginen to it as was tacken from him at his medow at chelmsford line when sd line was Run by the aut's [authorities ?] bound Round with the towns common Swamp & upland as the marked trees drect ; this land lyes on ye e[a]st sid of the Cowpond brook aboue thomas williams pa[t]ches of meadow : the aboue sd nin[e] accers of swamp & Low land was bought of william Price and James ffiske Jun<sup>r</sup> by sd lawranc and payed for beeing neuer layed out to sd Price & ffiske.

June : 15<sup>th</sup> 1687. Aproued compared & confirmed by the select men according to towne ord<sup>r</sup>

Atest Josiah Parkr.  
Town clarke

## II.

### DEED OF SALE.

#### JOSEPH LAWRENCE TO NATHANIEL LAWRENCE.

This Indenture made the first day of Aprill Anno Domini : 1665 Betweene Joseph Lawrence of the towne of Grawton in the County of Middlesex, on the one pte and nathaniell Lawrence on the same towne and county on the other pte wittnesseth that the sd Joseph Lawrence for & in consideration of fourteen pounds, starling by him in hand

paid by the sd Nathaniell Lawrence at the sealings and delivery of these Psents whereof the sd Joseph Lawrence doth acknowledge the receipt & himself therewith fully satisfied & payd & thereof doth fully and absolutely exonerate acquitt & discharge the sd Nathaniel Lawrence: his heirs, executors & administrators forever, by these psents Hath sold given granted bargained, & doth by these psents give grant sell bargain confirm and deliver, unto the sd Nathaniell Lawrence his heirs and assignes forever, all his whole accomadations Lying & being in Grawton aforesd: ffirst his house Lot with the additions [of] ffifteene acres more or Lesse bounded north p<sup>t</sup>ly by Samuells Woods west partly by James Ffisk, & on all other points with the towns commons; Two acres of swamp land more or less, bounded eastwardly with the lands of James Parker northwardly with the meadow of John Lawrence & on all other points with the townscommon: 3ly five acres of meadow more or lesse lying in one pcell near Uncatenasset Hill: bounded on all points with the towns common. 4ly one acre of meadow, lying on the north side of the brooke that runs by the side of Brownloafe plaine, bounded with the brooke & on all [o]ther points with the towns common, 5ly one acre & three quarters Lying in the generall ffeild: with all wayes easments Lybertyes and priviledges belonging to the sd Lands: with all his right and Interest in & to any after pportion or pportions, in any After devision or devisions whatsoever that may be in the township of Grawton afforesd: And moreover the sd Joseph Lawrence doth her[e]by Covenant p[ro]mise & grant to & with the sd Nathaniell Lawrence his heirs & assignes, that he hath ffull power & Law Authority in his owne name, to bargaine, sell, & convey the same as abovesd, & that it shall & may be lawfull to, & for the sd Nathaniell Lawrence, his heirs, & assignes forever hereafter peaceably, & quietly, to have, hold, occupy, & enioy the to him & their use, & uses, all, & singular, the aforesd lands, & premisses with all & every of their appurtenances, & every part thereof,





bounded south-west by James Parker, on all other points with the Towne comon : & three acres of Meadow in the halfe moon meadow : bounded south by James Parker, West by Jim. Allyn. East by the Smiths Meadow. west [north ?] by the Upland : also five acres of Meadow, on the hawtree brooke, lying on both sides of the brooke, bounded south by Ja : Parker, & the hygh-way : East by Jn<sup>o</sup>. Nutting, on all other points by the brooke & town Comon : alsoe, thirteen acres of Upland lying upon Gibbet hill, bounded North w<sup>th</sup> Nath : Lawrence, west by James Parker & south : east with the Towne comon : & a third pt of three acres & a halfe of Upland, lying in the generall field : & three acres & a 3<sup>d</sup> pt of an acre of meadow, lying in the flaggy meadow : butting north w<sup>th</sup> S. Willard : East w<sup>th</sup> Ja. Parker, on all other points with the towne Comon, (& all Town interest therto belonging :) all of which Land, & every p[ar]cell, by vertue of this obligation, I doe acknowledge to stand fully & firmly engaged to my Brō. Nath. Lawrence aboves<sup>d</sup>, to secure him frō any damage, or law-suits, whatsoever w<sup>ch</sup> may arise to him frō any [of] my fathers heirs, by ocasion of the defect of due paym<sup>t</sup> of the aboves<sup>d</sup>. sixty three pound fourteen shilling, & four pence. notwithstanding any future sale, bargaine, or alienation of the s<sup>d</sup> land, w<sup>ch</sup> may bee made, by me Joseph Lawrence : Provided that the above said p[ar]cells of Land, all, or any pticular of them, bee no further engaged, then to Answer the defects of the pticular paym<sup>ts</sup> of the above-said su<sup>m</sup>e, & damages arising frō such defects, & that upon a prizall, or valuation : & to the confirmation of this obligation, I, the s<sup>d</sup> Joseph Lawrence, doe set to my hand & seale, y<sup>e</sup> day & yeere above written :

Interlined in line : 18. & 19.	}	his marke
(& all Towne interest therto belonging)		
before the signing :		
Signed, sealed & delivered		
in pr[e]sence of		
Sam <sup>l</sup> . Willard.	}	Joseph Lawrence
Jonathan ffisq.		
		^
		[SEAL]

## IV.

## PELEG LAWRENCE'S DEED TO NATHANIEL LAWRENCE.

Groton. Febr: 18, 16<sup>69</sup>/<sub>70</sub>:

Know all men by these p<sup>r</sup>sents, that I Peleg Lawrence, of the Towne of Groton In the County of Middlesex, N.E: planter: For, & in consideration of nine pounds starling, by him in hand paid, by bill of acquittance, at the sealing & delivery of these p<sup>r</sup>sents, wherof I hereby doe acknowledge the receipt & myselfe fully satisfyed, & doe absolutely acquit him, his heires, executo<sup>r</sup>s, & administrato<sup>r</sup>s for ever: have sold, given, graunted, aliened, & enfeoffed, & by these p<sup>r</sup>sents doe give, sell, graunt, alien & enfeoffe, unto Nathaniel Lawrence of the sd towne, planter: a pcell of upland once the propriety of Joseph Lawrence, & by me of him purchased, lying upon Gibbet hill, being thirteen acres, more or lesse, bounded north with Nath: Lawrence, west & south w<sup>th</sup> James Parker, & Eastward, w<sup>th</sup> the Townes Comon: To have and to hold, to him, his heirs, executo<sup>r</sup>, administrato<sup>r</sup>s, & assignes, for ever: Furthermore, the said Peleg Lawrence dothe hereby covent, pmise, & graunt to & w<sup>th</sup> the said Nath: Lawrence, his heirs and assignes, that he hath full power & lawfull authority in his own name, to bargain, sell, & alienate the abovesd pcell of land, & y<sup>t</sup> hee said peleg Lawrence, will hold the same land free & cleere to the s<sup>d</sup> Nath: Lawrence, his heirs & assignes for ever, from all former bargains, sales, changes, sutes at Law, incumbrances, & just molestations whatsoever, arising from any p[er]son, or p[er]ssons whomsoever, laying just claim & title therto, from, by, or under him the sd Peleg Lawrence, his heirs and assignes for ever, in witnesse wherof the abovesd Peleg Laurence hath set to his hand & seale:

Signed, sealed &amp; delivered

peeleg lawrence

in p<sup>r</sup>sence of:Sam.<sup>ll</sup> Willard

[SEAL]

Jonatha ffsq

This deede of sale was acknowledged  
by Peeleg Lawrence 16: th of ye  
9the mo[nth] 1670 before me

Simon willard asist[ant]

## V.

## JOHN MORSE'S DEED TO NATHANIEL LAWRENCE.

To all People to whom these presents shall come or anyway may concerne greeting: Know ye: that I John morsse Senior: of the towne of Watertown in the Countey of Midelsex in new england for and in consideration of four pound to me in hand well and truely payd by nathaniell Lawrance Senior of Groten in the Countey of Midelsex in new england of the receit whei of I doe together with Sarah my wif acknowledg myselfe by these presents fully satisfied and payd and thei of doe fully acquit exonerate and discharg him the sayd nathaniell Lawrance his heires excecutors administrators and assignes for euer and by these presents have Granted Bergaind sold and confirmed and by these presents doe fully clearly and absolutly Grant bergaine sell alien and confirm unto him the sayd nath. Lawrance to him his heires and assignes for euer one persell of Land scituate and beeing in the towne of Groten the same conteyning four acres bee it mor or Lesse Lyeing upon a hill comonly called by the name of Indian hill adjoyning to his own Land on the west north with the Bay Road east with the Land of thomas smith south with the ende of the other Lots To haue and to hold the abou Granted priuledges and Bergaind premeses and apurtances to the sam apertayning or in any wise belonging to him the sayd nath : Lawrance his heires and assignes foreuer to his and their proper use and behoaf And I the aboue named John morse for me my heires excecutors administrators and assignes doe couenant promis and Grant to and with the sayd nath Lawrance his heires and assignes and by these presents I the sd John morsse hau good right and full power and Lawfull authority to grant bergaine sell, and confirm the abou Granted and bergaind premesis to him the sd nath : Lawrance his heires and assignes foreuer and that he the sd nath Lawrance his heires and assignes shall and may at all times and from tim to tim for euer hereafter quietly and

peaceably hau hold occupy possesse and Injoy the sam abou granted and Bergained premisses be the same more or Lesse without Let deniall or Interruption of me the sd John morsse my heires excecuters administrators and assignes them or of any of them or of any other person or persons clayming and hauing any right title or Interest theirin by from or under mee or by any other Lawfull wayes or means whatsoever In witness herof I the aboue named John Morsse haue set to my hand and seall in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred eighty-four

febr 10

John morffe [SEAL]

Signed sealed and

diliuered in the

Sarah morfe

presence of us

mark A [SEAL]

Dauid church,

Cambr. 15. 3. 1685.

mary [O] Church

This Deed of Sale is acknowledged by

her mark.

Jn<sup>o</sup> Moss to be his act and deed.Before Tho: Danforth. Dep<sup>t</sup>. Gour.

## VI.

THIS INDENTER made between Nathanaell Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> of the Towne of Concord in the County of Midd<sup>x</sup> within the province of the Massathusets Bay in New England on the one part, and Nathanaell Lawrence Jun<sup>r</sup> (son unto sd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup>) on the other part, Wittnesseth that he the sayd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup>, for Valluable Causes & Good Reasons him there unto moveing which are here after mentioned and are done & fullfilled by Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> afores<sup>d</sup> Hath (with the free consent of Anna — his now maryed wife) Given granted Bargained exchainged Allyened enfeoffed conveyed and confirmed and by these prsents doth freely fully Clearly and absolutely Give grant Bargain Exchange Alyen enfeoffe Convey & Confirme unto him the sayd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> his father, his Heirs Executors Administrato<sup>r</sup>s & Assignes forever, as follows, Impri: a certain Parcell of Land containing by Estimation



Twelve Acres be the same more or Less, within the Limits & Bounds of the Township of Groton in sd County of Midd<sup>x</sup> (in which Towne y<sup>e</sup> sd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup> now liveth) which Land did formerly belong to James ffske sen<sup>r</sup>, Being Bounded by Joshua Wheat Northeasterly, southerly and easterly partly by the Lands of James Cady, & partly by Cornelious Church, and westerly upon the highway Together with the houseing, fenceing & all the Improvement upon it, Also one Acre of meadow or meadow Land within the Bounds of Groton aforesd, be the same more or less Bounding north and west upon Capt<sup>n</sup> Prescote, southerly by Thomas ffske<sup>s</sup> meadow, easterly Butting upon the highway.

To have and to hold all singuler the aboue granted & Bargained pr[e]mises be the same more or less with all & every the privelidges and Appurtenances thereunto Appertaining or in any wise belonging unto him the said Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> his Heirs executors Administrators and Assignes for ever unto his & their propper use Benefit & behoof. IN CONSIDERATION Wherof he sd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> with the free consent of Sarah his wife. — HATH given granted Bargained exchanged Alyened enfeofed Conveyed and Confirmed, and by these presents DOTH fully freely Clearly and Absolutely give grant Bargaine Exchange Alyen enfeof Convey & Confirm unto him the sd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup> his son & with him his Heirs Executors Administrato<sup>r</sup>s and Assignes forever the sever<sup>ll</sup> parcellls of Land & meadow hereafter expressed all within the Limits & Bounds of the Township of Groton aforesd, Imprimis his house-Lott containing five acres be the same more or less, which Lott doth adjoin unto the Lands of Capt<sup>n</sup> James parker. Also a lott of Thirty Acres of upland at a place known by the Name of Gibbit-hill be the same more or less. Also seven acres of upland swampe & meadow land at [a] place known by the name of provedence meadows with an Addition of about three Acres of Land by sd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> purchased of the Towne of Groton their Committee; all these Lastnamed four parcellls of Land the sd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> doth

convey & pass-over to his sd son Nathan<sup>ll</sup> as they were granted & purchased, and entered in Groton afore sd there Booke of Records be they more or less. TO HAVE and TO HOLD all and singular the last a bove four parcells of Land as they are her[e] Butted & Bounded with all the Right[s] members privelidges and Appurtenances there unto Appertaining or in any wise belonging unto him the sd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup> his Heirs executors Administrato<sup>r</sup>s and Assigns unto his & their & every of their proper use Benefit and behoof forever. And it is to be understood that what these four Last mentioned parcells of Land are of more value then the first mentioned two parcells, he y<sup>e</sup> sd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> doth freely bestow the same upon the afore sayd Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup> his son. And the parties concerned, Viz. Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence sen<sup>r</sup> & Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup> do both covenant promise & grant for them selves their heirs executors & Administrators with each other their Heirs & Assignes, that they will secure and deffend all what they have exchanged & sold to each other in this Instrument from any Lawfull claymes y<sup>t</sup> shall be made by any person or persons what so ever[,] That so the pr[e]mises aboue granted may remain & abide Absolute & Indefeazeble Titles of Inheritance in ffee simple uo each other their heirs executors Administrato<sup>r</sup>s and Assigns forever according to the true meaning of this Indenture

IN WITTNESSE where of he the sd Nathanael Laurence sen<sup>r</sup>, as also Sarah his wife. And Nathan<sup>ll</sup> Laurence Jun<sup>r</sup> and Anna his wife unto this their Deed & Act they do all put to their hands and seals this thirty first day of Octob<sup>r</sup> in the year Anno Dommi one thousand sixteen [*sic*] hundred ninty & five In the seventh year of his majesty's Reign: King william the third

signed sealed and Declared  
in presence of us — —  
tthomas Bateman  
elazar batman  
Thomas Browne sen<sup>r</sup>

nathannil Lawrance	[SEAL]
her	
Sarah X Laurence	[SEAL]
marke	
Nathanell Lawrence	[SEAL]
annah Larrance	[SEAL]



Nathaniel Lawrance of concord. Se.

Sarah Lawrance his wife

nathaniel Lawrance Jun. & hannah his wife personally  
appearing before m<sup>e</sup> acknowledged this instrument to be  
their proper act & deed.

James Minott  
Justice

Octob. 31. 1695

## VII.

### NATHANIEL LAWRENCE'S LEASE TO JONATHAN FOSKIT.

This indenture of Lees made and Confirmed this twenty day of March in year of our lord 1723 one thousand sauen houndread and twenty three: and in the ninth year of his maiestes Raigh King George: of great brittain by and betwene Nathaniel Lawrrance And Johnnathan foskit booth of Charlstown in the County of mid<sup>x</sup> within his maigestes prouence of y<sup>e</sup> massachusets bay in New England husband man wittnesseth that y<sup>e</sup> afore s<sup>d</sup>. Nathanil Lawrance for diuers good Causes and Conceiderations him hereunto moueing but more Espeshely in Consideration of y<sup>e</sup> Rents Couinants and Searuis [service] here After Mentioned and Exspresed to be by y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Jonathan foskit performed and satisfied doth by these presents demes Leeas leat and farm leet unto ye said Jonathan foskit his hiers Executors Administrators or Assigns A certain Massage [*Messuage*] or Liueing of lands Containing About Eaighthty acres be it more or less sittuate lying in ye bounds of Charlstown afore said namly one dwelling house y<sup>e</sup> old house and half y<sup>e</sup> barn with all y<sup>e</sup> land y<sup>e</sup> said Lawrance hath in Charlstown Afore-s<sup>d</sup>. with all the proffits preiuledg[e]s And appourtainces thereunto belonging to the sole use of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Jonathan Foskit, his heirs and Assigns duering the term of three full years affter y<sup>e</sup> date of these presents for and in Conceideration wherof the s<sup>d</sup> Jonathan foskit doth hereby bind and oblige himself his

heirs Executors and Administrators to till and use and occ[u]pye all y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Lands by plowing planting sowing and tilling all the brooken up Land and mo[w]ing and Raken all y<sup>e</sup> Meddow Land yt yous [used] to be Mowed and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> foskit is to Cut Split and Sharp one hundred of posts and hool three hools [make three holes] in Eatch of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> posts and y<sup>e</sup> said foskit is to Cut and Split and Sharpe one houndred and fifty rails all for y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Lawrance on y<sup>e</sup> fore Mentioned land and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> foskit is to Cut and bring to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Lawrances hous so much handye Cord wood as y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Lawrance or his wife shall haue ocation to burn in three full years Affter the date here of and y<sup>e</sup> said foskit is to take y<sup>e</sup> whole Care of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Lawrances Cattel booth summer and wintter to feet[c]h up, to turn in to the paster to house and to Clean and to meet y<sup>e</sup> same sofisciently as Cattel should be lookt affter for y<sup>e</sup> whole term of three years from y<sup>e</sup> date of these presents aboue mentioned and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> foskit is to Cart all y<sup>e</sup> dung into y<sup>e</sup> feeld that is in y<sup>e</sup> yeard afore y<sup>e</sup> barn before winter : and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Nathanil Lawrences or his hiers is to have half of all that is Raised on all y<sup>e</sup> aboue said lands for Reant and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Larances is to haue s<sup>d</sup> reents yearly and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Larances is to find half ye seed of all sorts and s<sup>d</sup> foskit is to find y<sup>e</sup> other half of y<sup>e</sup> seed and y<sup>e</sup> said foskit is to Cart all y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Larances half of hay into y<sup>e</sup> barn and y<sup>e</sup> said Lawrances half of Corn into y<sup>e</sup> hous and foskit is to pay ha[l]f the rats for y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Lands and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> foskit is to maintain all y<sup>e</sup> fence upon y<sup>e</sup> aboue s<sup>d</sup> farm and s<sup>d</sup> foskit is to find occen and Cart and tacklen to do y<sup>e</sup> said work with all and y<sup>e</sup> said foskit is not to sell any wood or timber off[f] of y<sup>e</sup> places, or hay without y<sup>e</sup> leue of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Lawrances ; Not with standing all afore written I y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> nathaniel lawrances dowe hereby receuve [reserve] for my self and my family y<sup>e</sup> use and improuement of my house which i now liue in and my Shop and all sow y<sup>e</sup> garden before y<sup>e</sup> door farther more we ye aboue mentioned Nathaniel Lawrance and Jonathan foskit do hereby bind and oblige our selufs [selves] and Each of our hiers Joyntly and

seauerly [severally] to Echat other to fullfill all the Artickils and seruiss afore mentioned And Abide by the premises afore mentioned as witness our hands And seals.

An[n]o Domini 1723

Signed sealed and delivered in presents of	}	his	
		Nathaniel M Lawrance	
		mark	[SEAL.]
		his	
James Wesson :	}	Jonathan + foskit	
Joanna Wesson.		mark	[SEAL.]

### VIII.

#### THOMAS RAND'S DEED TO NATHANIEL LAWRENCE.

To all people to whome these presents shall come greeting Know YE that I Thomas rand of Charlstowne in the County of Midlesex in new England shoemaker—for and in Consideration of thre pound ten shilings to me well and truly paid that is to say wone Cow By Estimation worth fifty shillings and twenty shillings in Currant mony of new England i say to be paid By nathanell Lauranc Sen<sup>r</sup> of Groton in the County of Midlesex in new England Planter the receite wherof i doe By these presents Acknowledg and therewith to be fully satisfied and paid and therof and of every part and persell therof doe fully Clearly & absolutly aquit & discharg the said nathanell Lawrenc his heirs excecutors & administrators for ever by these presents Have granted Bargained & Sold aliened enfeofed and confirmed and By these presents doe fully & absolutely grant Bargaine & sell alien enfeofe and Confirme unto him the said nathanell Laurenc one acre of meadow & ten acres of upland more or les lying & Being in ye towne of Groton situate & Bounded north<sup>ly</sup> with the land of nathanell Laurenc aforsd west with the highway that leads to long meadow & part south with johnathan sattell & southeast with James parker sen<sup>r</sup> with all the preuēldges to the same apertayning or in any wise Belonging To have and to hold

the aboue granted & Bargained p<sup>r</sup>emises to him the said nathanell Laurenc his heires and Asignes for euer to his and their only proper use and Behoofe and I the Aboue named Thomas Rand for mee my heires excecuto<sup>r</sup>s & Administrators doe couenant promis & grant to & with him the said nathanell Laurenc his heires & Asignes By these presents; that I the said Thomas Rand haue good right full power & authority to Grant Bargaine & Confirme the same unto him the said nathanell Laurenc his heirs & Assignes for euer; and that he the said nathanell Laurenc his heires & Assignes shall & may at all times & from time to time for euer hereafter haue & hold occupy posess & injoy the Aboue Granted & Bargained p<sup>r</sup>emises without the lett denyall or Contradiction of me the said Thomas Rand my heires executors Administrators or Assignes them or of Any of them or of Any other person or persons lawfully claiming & hauing any right title or interest therin By Any way or meanes whatsoever in witnes herof I the aboue named Thomas Rand haue put to my hand & Seall this fiftene day of may in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hondred eighty eight Signed Sealed and deliuered in presenc of us Witnesses

Eleazer phillips

Timothy Phillips

Thomas Rand [SEAL]

Sah

Sarah rand [SEAL]

Boston 24<sup>th</sup> January 1688/9

Thomas Rand and Sarah his wife personally appearing before me one of the Councill of this his Majestys Territory and Dominion of New England acknowledged the within written Instrum. to be their act & deed

Jn<sup>o</sup> Ufher.

## IX.

RECORD OF JOHN LAWRENCE AND HIS WIFE AND  
CHILDREN.

this is a tru Ragster of all y<sup>e</sup> Childran of John and Anna  
Laurance Born unto them of thar owne Bodies.

John Lawrance fathar of thes borne in y<sup>e</sup>  
yere 1667

Anna Lawrance mother of thes borne in  
y<sup>e</sup> yere 1670.

John Born june the ninth day in the yere 1689

Thomas. Born in desember the twentieth 3 day in  
the yere 1691.

Nathanill Born jenuarey 31 day in the  
yere 1694

William Born august the 11 day in the  
yere 1697.

Samuell Born july the 9th day in the  
year 170[0]

Anna Born octobar the 29 day in the  
yere 17[0]2

Johnathan Born february the 13enth  
day in the year 17[0]6.

Sarah Born June the 19enth day in  
the yere 17[0]8

Beniman Born maye 28th day in the  
yere 1713

Amos Born february the 13enth day in the yea[r]e 1716.

John was 37 yers old in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726.

Thomas was 35 yers old in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726

nathanil would have bin 33 in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1727.

willam was 29 in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726.

samuell was 26 in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726.

anna was 24 in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726

Jonathan was 20 in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726  
 sary was 18 in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726.  
 beniman was 13 in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726.  
 Amos was 10 in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1726.<sup>1</sup>

## X.

## ACQUITTANCE.

## SAREY FARNSWORTH.

Lexington. September 29 - 1725.

Receued of John Lawrance, one of the execut[o]rs unto  
 Deacon Lawrance Late of Charlstown in the County of  
 midelsex in new ingland deseses the sum of 8 pounds ten  
 shillings being the full of a Legac[y] giu[e]n unto me in the  
 Last will and Testament of y<sup>e</sup> sd Decon Lawrance of which  
 sumb & all other debts du[e]s & sumbs of money & Demands  
 what so euer [on] accounts of sd Test[a]ment I do hereby  
 acquitt & discharg y<sup>e</sup> sd execut[o]rs thar heirs execut[o]rs &  
 admin<sup>rs</sup> & eueri of them for euer by thes presanc witness my  
 hand this 29 day of septamber a[n]no Dom[in]i on[e] thou-  
 sand seuen hundred & twenty fue.

mark	}	Sarah farnworth
marey o farnworth.		
hur	}	Isaac Farnsworth.
Sarah Lawrance.		

## XI.

"A REWARD TO SYMONS [AND] LOCK AND GIFT TO  
 MARY TUTTLE."<sup>2</sup>

Woburn. June y<sup>e</sup> 19 1757.

This may sartify that we the heirs of our honoured Mother  
 who not Long sence Departed this Life at Lemester at our  
 beloved brother Jemas Symons house.

<sup>1</sup> The original of this record is in the handwriting of John Lawrence of Lexington.

<sup>2</sup> See Lawrence Genealogy. Edition of 1869. Family No. 13.



in Consideration of there Troble in her sickness and while [she] was at there house we frely give our part of the bed and beding at there house which was prised at £18 old tener. . . . 18-0-0. Lickwise to paying the dochter and funeral charges[,] one Cow Reconed at £15 old tener and cash £4, s2, d6. . . . 19-2-6. which we Look upon to be there Just Due from s<sup>d</sup> Estate and Lickwise we Leve a note Due s<sup>d</sup> symons to s<sup>d</sup> Estate of £12 old tener in the hands of our brother to git and set up [a] grave stone at our honoured mothers grave[.] in testimony hereof we have set our hands[.]

Furthermore we agree to give to our beloved Sister Lock £10 old tener for Nursing and taking Care of our honoured mother in hur weekness[.] also we a Cording to our honoured mothers desier give £10 old tener to mary Tuttell.

John Lawrance

Geo Tilley

Thomas Ditson.

James Simonds

Samuial Lawanace

mary Tuttle.

Isaac Lawrance

## XII.

### DEED OF THE HOMESTEAD AT CAMBRIDGE FARMS.

[MIDDLESEX REGISTRY OF DEEDS, fol. 18. 413.]

To all People before whom these P<sup>r</sup>sents shall come Greeting and Know ye that I William Johnson now of Cambridge in the County Midd<sup>x</sup> In the Massachusets Colony in new England Carpanter for & in consideration of twenty pounds to me well & truly Paid in hand by John Laurance Weaver of Groton the Receipt whereof I do by these p<sup>r</sup>sents acknowledge and therew<sup>th</sup> to be fully satisfied contented and paid and of every part and parcell thereof Do fully Clearly & absolutely acquitt Exonarte & discharge the s<sup>d</sup> John Laurance & his heires for ever by these presents have granted bargained & sold & therefore Do by these p<sup>r</sup>sents farther give grant bar-



gain sell alien enfeofe & confirm unto John Laruance aforesd a tract of Land Containing by Estimation thirty eight acres be it more or less Scituate Lying or being within the bounds of y<sup>e</sup> Town Of Cambridge at a place Comonly Called *y<sup>e</sup> worlds end* & is bounded by the medow of William Lock & Sam<sup>el</sup> Lock north east & by ye land of afores<sup>d</sup> William Johnson: Easte & south west by the Land of Henry Goddin norwest & South east by town high wayes that is thirty two acres of it y<sup>e</sup> other six acres Lyeing y<sup>e</sup> next raing twoards Billeraca & is bounded northeast by a Lott that was John Wintars South-west by a lott of Joseph Russell southeast & norwest by Town high wayes to Have and to Hold the two parcels of Land as they arr butted & bounded together with all y<sup>e</sup> Rights of trees and timber Like trees wood & underwood standing Lying or growing or that ever shall grow upon y<sup>e</sup> same w<sup>th</sup> all other the Rights priviledges & appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining to him y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> John Laruance his heires Exec<sup>rs</sup> Admm<sup>rs</sup> & assignes that I have good Right & Law full authority to make sale of y<sup>e</sup> premesess & that y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> John Laruance shall or may at all times & from time to time forever hereafter pecably & quietly Have Hold occupie possess & Injoy y<sup>e</sup> same in as full & ample manner as I myself did or might have done w<sup>thout</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Lawfull Sute Lett hindrance molestation Contridiction Expulsion of me or any from by or under me waranting y<sup>e</sup> same from all former gifts grants sales Leases mortgages Jonteres Dowress or titles of Dowress atachments Judgments or Executions formerly had made or Done granted of or by me at any time & from any person or persons Claiming or haveing any Right title or Interest therein or any part thereof & that ye above bargained premises may Continue & Remain a good true absolute secure title of Inheritance in fee simple unto the s<sup>d</sup> John Laruance & his heires forever I the s<sup>d</sup> William Johnson as also mary my now married wife manefesting Consentt to this my act & deed have sett to our hands & afixed our seales this twentieth day of June anno Domi [*sic*] Sixten hundred ninty & three

& in ye fifth year of their majts Raign King william & Queen mary Defenders of the faith ouer England Scotland france & Ireland — William Johnson his mark. [seal.] — mary Johnson her mark. [seal.] — Signed Sealed & Delivered in ye p<sup>r</sup>sence of us William Johnson Sen<sup>r</sup> of Cambridge farms Confessed this Instrument to be his proper act & Deed before me february 11 - 1697.

James Minott Justice.

## XIII.

From the Middlesex Registry of Probate :—

AN INVENTORY OF YE ESTATE OF JNO LAWRENCE OF GROTON DECEASED.

	lb	s	d
Imp. 13 swine 9 <sup>lbs</sup> 3 <sup>s</sup> : 1 young red heifer, 3 <sup>lb</sup> 12 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup>	12	15	6
It. 1 young brown cow 3 <sup>lb</sup> 5 <sup>s</sup> .			
1 black cow 4 <sup>lb</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup> .	07	15	0
It. 1 old brown cow 3 <sup>lb</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup> .			
1 great black ox 6 <sup>lb</sup>	09	10	0
It. 2 fat oxen 11 <sup>lb</sup> .			
2 blacke working oxen, 11 <sup>lb</sup> .	22	00	0
It. 1 pair steeres 10 <sup>lb</sup> 1 iron pot 14 <sup>s</sup> .			
& pot hookes	10	14	0
It. 1 iron pot 11 <sup>s</sup> & pot hooks.			
1 iron kettle 2 <sup>s</sup>	00	13	0
It. 1 old iron pot, 1 <sup>s</sup> 1 brass pot 1 <sup>s</sup> .			
tubs, pails & trayes 9 <sup>s</sup> .	00	11	0
It. more tubs & wooden platters 3 <sup>s</sup> .			
1 fan, 5 <sup>s</sup> , 1 halfe bushel 2 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup>	00	10	6
It. 2 tubs, & a cieve, 1 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> , 3 pecks, malt 3 <sup>s</sup> ,			
3 sawes & a reele 6 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	10	6
It. 1 iron crow 5 <sup>s</sup> , 1 pair tramels 4 <sup>s</sup> ,			
1 paire tramels 1 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> ,	00	10	6
It. 3 augurs, 3 <sup>s</sup> , 1 broad ax & 4 Bobbins 1 <sup>s</sup> ,			
2 old syths 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	05	

It. 1 hammer & a skellet frame 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	lb s d
2 wedges and a pair of beetle rings, 4 <sup>s</sup> ,	00 05 0
It. 3 axes, 5 <sup>s</sup> , 1 narrow how & a bolt, 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	
1 ax, 2 bolts & 2 ring, 3 <sup>s</sup> ,	00 09 0
It. 1 horse shoo, 1 iron S, one chissel, 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	
1 locke & key 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	00 02 0
It. 1 pin for a shackle & a piece of lead, 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	
old iron 2 <sup>s</sup> , 3 pailles, & 1 plate, 2 <sup>s</sup> ,	00 05 0
It. powder, shot, bullets, bag, & mold, 3 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> ,	
1 pair boots, 15 <sup>s</sup> ,	00 18 6
It. 2 paire of shoos, 6 <sup>s</sup> , 1 shackle for a plow, 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	
pewter, 1 <sup>lb</sup> , 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	01 08 0
It. 1 dripping pan, 6 spoons, 4 <sup>s</sup> , 1 little kettle 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	
2 trays, 1 inkhorne 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	00 06 0
It. 1. cushion case & $\frac{1}{2}$ y <sup>rd</sup> curtain cloth, 5 <sup>s</sup> ,	
1 looking glass, 1 dram cup, 2 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> ,	00 07 6
It. pewter, 16 <sup>s</sup> , 3 earthen platters, 2 <sup>s</sup> ,	
a paire of scales, & a little skellet, 2 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> ,	01 00 6
It. 1 saddle & pillion, 1 <sup>lb</sup> , 5 <sup>s</sup> ,	
1 pillion cloath, 12 <sup>s</sup> , 2 hats, 13 <sup>s</sup> ,	02 10 0
It. 1 chaire 4 <sup>s</sup> , 1 cushion 6 <sup>d</sup> , 1 fether bed,	
& furniture: 9 <sup>lb</sup> ,	09 04 6
It. 1 bed & bolster, & y <sup>e</sup> accoutrements: 1 <sup>lb</sup> , 4	01 04 0
It. 1 bearing blanket, 15 <sup>s</sup> , 2 y <sup>rds</sup> stuffe, 3 <sup>s</sup> ,	
1 serge suit & coat 2 <sup>lb</sup> , 13 <sup>s</sup> ,	03 10 0
It. cloath suit & coat 2 <sup>lb</sup> , 15 <sup>s</sup> , 1 cloath suit	
& coat, 10 <sup>s</sup>	03 05 0
It. 1 chest, 8 <sup>s</sup> , 1 chamber pot: 2 <sup>s</sup> —6 <sup>d</sup> .	
1 cushion & a paire of stockings 2 <sup>s</sup> , 6 <sup>d</sup> .	00 13 0
It. 4 bushels of meale, 12 <sup>s</sup> , 1 bushel $\frac{1}{2}$ wheat, 7 <sup>s</sup> 6 <sup>d</sup> ,	00 19 6
It. 2 bushel indian corne, 6 <sup>s</sup> , sackes 15 <sup>s</sup> ,	
hempe & old boots, 5 <sup>s</sup> ,	01 06 0
It. 1 flaile & a staffe, 1 <sup>s</sup> , 2 curtain rods, 2 <sup>s</sup> ,	
3 chaires, 4 <sup>s</sup> ,	00 07 0
It. 1 pigeon net, 1 <sup>lb</sup> , 1 stone jug 6 <sup>d</sup> ,	
1 Bible 6 <sup>s</sup> , 1 box a knife & ring 3 <sup>s</sup> ,	01 08 6

It. 2 cieves, 1 <sup>s</sup> , 2 ioyn stooles, 3 <sup>s</sup> , 1 box, 3 <sup>s</sup>	lb	s	d
1 sheet, & 2 pillowbeers 16 <sup>s</sup> ,	01	03	0
It. 1 paire of gloves, 1 <sup>s</sup> , 6 <sup>d</sup> , sugar, 2 <sup>s</sup> , 8 <sup>d</sup> ,			
1 frying pan 3 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	07	2
It. 1 paire of sheets, 12 <sup>s</sup> , 1 halfe sheet, 2 <sup>s</sup> ,			
1 sheet 5 <sup>s</sup> , 1 shirt, 4 <sup>s</sup> ,	01	03	0
It. 2 pillow beers, 4 <sup>s</sup> , 2 pillow beers 3 <sup>s</sup> ,			
10 napkins 12 <sup>s</sup> , 6 <sup>d</sup> ,	00	19	6
It. 2 napkins, 1 <sup>s</sup> , 6 <sup>d</sup> , 1 table cloath 1 <sup>s</sup> ,			
3 pillow beers 7 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	09	6
It. Stockings & 2 pillows 3 <sup>s</sup> , hobnails 8 <sup>d</sup> ,			
1 warming pan, 4 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	07	8
It. 1 cradle rug, 4 <sup>s</sup> , 2 band, & 2 neck-cloaths, 3 <sup>s</sup> ,			
2 chests 10 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	17	0
It. 1 bed & furniture, 1 <sup>lb</sup> , 8 <sup>s</sup> , 1 chain 5 <sup>s</sup> ,			
1 wheele-burrow, 3 <sup>s</sup> ,	01	16	0
It. 2 rings & staples 4 <sup>s</sup> . 6 <sup>d</sup> , 1 plow 6 <sup>s</sup> ,			
1 grind stone, 4 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	14	0
	<hr/>		
	103	00	10

It. 1 slead, 3 <sup>s</sup> , tubs, 9 <sup>s</sup> , barks & tubs, 3 <sup>s</sup> ,	lb	s	d
1 table leaf 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	16	0
It. 1 cupboard, 6 <sup>s</sup> , 1 chest 2 <sup>s</sup> ,			
1 trough and 1 chissell 1 <sup>s</sup> ,	00	09	0
It. 2 files 6 <sup>d</sup> , 1 fowling piece 1 <sup>lb</sup> ,	01	00	6
It. The house, barnes, & ten acres adjoyning running fro ye street to the hill taking an equall breadthe 60 <sup>lb</sup> .	60	00	0
It. 4 acres meadow to this. 8 <sup>s</sup>	00	08	0
The other 10 acres lying at the side of this, 30 <sup>lb</sup>	30	00	0
It. the residue of ye accomodation, 54 <sup>lb</sup> .	54	00	0
It. corne of all sorts, 20 <sup>lb</sup> .	20	00	0
It. hay 3 <sup>lb</sup> . 1 sickle 1 <sup>s</sup> . hempe 9 <sup>s</sup> .			
2 yokes & a forke 5 <sup>s</sup> .	03	15	0

It. 30 y <sup>r</sup> s cloath at y <sup>e</sup> weavers, all charges paid	lb	s	d
2 <sup>lb</sup> , 4 <sup>s</sup> .	02	04	0
It. 1 bush. 1 <sup>s</sup> . 1 cart, 2 chains,			
& 1 rope, 2 <sup>lb</sup> 6 <sup>s</sup> .	02	07	0
	174	19	6
	103	00	10

Sume totall :

278 00 4

This is a true copy of the Inventory  
taken by us :

James Parker.

John Nutting.

John Page.

	lb	s	d
It. Due to the estate upon debt fro severall ptyes :—	02	03	0
It. some old iron found since the Inventory			
made amounts to	00	03	0

Sworne by y<sup>e</sup> Executrix Susanna Lauranc & Nathaniel

8. 1. 1667. Laurance Executor that this is a true  
Inventory of the estate of the said John  
Laurance & that if any more appeare  
they will cause it to be added hereto.  
Thomas Danforth — R.

## XIV.

From the Middlesex Registry of Probate (box 263, No. 14;  
recorded lib. xvii. p. 110) :—

AN IN VENTORY OF DEA : CN NETHANIEL LAWRANCES  
ESTATE. LATE OF CHARLESTOWN FARMES DECEASED.

Lands.

To Houses and Lands &amp; all Buildings on sd Lands

	s	d
	£690.	0. 0.
To one Bible and sundry other Books . . .	00.	18. 0.
To one Brass Kettle & one small Brass Skillet . . .	01	00 00

To two Puter Basons 1 Quarte poot 1 platter	s	d
& 2 puter Chamber pots . . . . .	£00	11 00
To 1 frying pan 1 Iron Kettle 1 grid Iron . . . . .	00	09 00
To 2 Sives 1 Hetchell 1 Close Broch . . . . .	00	07 00
To Wooden Dishes and Trenchers . . . . .	00	01 00
To 7 oald Chares and one Oald Table . . . . .	00	06 00
To 1 pare of beattle and Wedges Iron Crow and a Hone . . . . .	00	14 00
To one Broad axe 1 mortising axe 1 adds 4 oald Chopping axes . . . . .	01	01 00
To 2 orgers 2 Chessels 1 shave 3 plaines . . . . .	00	07 00
To 2 Sickles 2 Sithes 1 Tramel and a Hammer, To 1 Cowbell a Ring and Staple 3 oald gripes 1 oald bore iron 1 Ring . . . . .	00	07 00 00 10 00
To 1 pare of Traces and a whipple tree Chain 1 paire of Fetters 1 spade Sum oald pieces of Chaines stock & bitt . . . . .	00	18 00
To 1 oald gun and 1 oald Sword 1 Casement Chessele . . . . .	00	10 00
To 1 pare of Composes whetstone gouge & Pieces of oald Iron . . . . .	00	03 00
To 1 Coller 1 half Bushil 2 Chests . . . . .	00	10 00
To 3 Dry Casks and Churne 2 Baskets one Riddle and Sum oald Tooles & odd things of ye Same Kinde . . . . .	00	06 00
To 1 feather Beed and Bolster & 2 pillows 2 Coverlids & 6 Blankets . . . . .	5	00 00
To 1 oald under Bead and Boalster of flock and under bead tickin . . . . .	01	04 00
To Sum Oald Lumber of Oald Beadsteds and Boxes . . . . .	00	06 00
To two sheats 3 pillerbeeres 1 napken 1 meal Sack & beadline . . . . .	01	04 00
To oald Bead Ticken & paire of Blankets a Coller a half barReele a small Skillet of Brass & a Iron Kettle a pare of Bellowss a Tongues and Peale & a Iron Hook a sive a Oyl gare [?] &		

a Tine Lampe one Linnen sheet a table Cloth and one pillow 1 wollen whele and a Knot [?] Dish a pare of pincherses and a gimblit one	s d
Chare . . . . .	£02 01 00
To 1 Forke and 2 Oald Plows spanshakel and Pin . . . . .	02 02 06
To 1 mare and Saddle . . . . .	04 00 00
Sum Totale . . . . .	£714 18 6

Charls Town Farms.

June 10<sup>th</sup> 1724

A true In Ventry Errors Excepted.

	Eben Bruks
moer Things on the	John Holdin
other side prised	
bye the prisers	John Willis

The sum totall of ye other side Broot ouer and here fixed . . . . .	714 18 6
to one Boonde of six pownds . . . . .	06 00 00
to one Boonde moer of fowr pownds Ten shillings . . . . .	04 10 00
to Twenty-nine Booshels of indian corne . . . . .	05 01 06
to Eaight Booshells of oates . . . . .	00 15 00
to Three Booshels of Beens . . . . .	00 11 00
to Three Boshels & one half peack of Rye . . . . .	00 15 06
to one small Timber chaine . . . . .	00 16 00
to one Leather Belt & one mony case & one pockett Knife . . . . .	
& to one small glue bottle & one oald linning wheale.	00 05 00
totall . . . . .	£733 12 06

NOTE. — A *hatchel* or *hetchel* is an instrument for combing flax. *Trammel* signifies an iron hook for hanging kettles. A *riddle* is a coarse sieve. *Pillowbeer*, old name for pillow-case. A *colter* or *coulter* is the cutting-iron of a plough. A *peal* or *peel* is a kind of fire-shovel. *Spanshackle* means a large bolt.



## XV.

From the Middlesex Registry of Probate :—

AN INVENTORY OF YE ESTATE OF LIEUT. AMOS  
LAURENCE LATE GROTON DECE'D—VIZ—

Homestead buildings & land	[£]450	0	0
Woodland at long pond	45	"	"
Pine plain	9	—	—
Pick fork	0	1	8
Small do	0	0	9
3 rakes	0	1	6
Ox yoke	0	6	0
Do	0	2	0
staple and ring	0	2	0
3 draft chanes	0	18	0
Iron bar	0	12	0
Do	0	6	0
Iron shovel	0	4	0
shackel & pin	0	1	0
Brake	0	2	0
slay & harness,	3	0	0
6 Dry casks	0	3	0
4 hoes	0	3	0
dung fork	0	3	0
Desk	0	6	0
Clock	3	0	0
foot whele	0	6	0
2 Sythes & snayhs	0	6	10
feathers	0	12	0
Corn.	4	10	0
beans	0	6	0
Rye	1	10	0
side saddle	0	6	0
chest	0	1	6
chest of draws	0	12	0
Case of do	1	10	0
Do. Do.	0	9	0
looking glass	0	4	0
6 chairs	0	18	0
2 great Do.	0	3	0
8 old Do.	0	8	0
<hr/>			
	£525	14	3

2 Tea tables	[£]0	3	9
1 Table	0	12	0
candle stand	0	1	6
Large round table	0	9	0
2 kitchen tables	0	3	0
2 axes	0	9	0
2 old do	0	2	0
small plow	0	6	0
betle rings	0	0	9
horse traces	0	2	0
Cart.	2	8	0
harrow	0	18	0
stubble plow	0	9	9
sled	0	3	0
26 cyder barrels	1	6	0
2 keggss	0	0	9
soap & barrel	0	12	0
pork	5	0	0
3 beef tubs	0	6	0
potatoes	0	6	0
saddle	0	12	0
bridle	0	6	0
pillion	0	3	0
whele	0	6	0
Do	0	3	0
looking glass	0	6	0
earthen plates	0	6	0
pewter Do	0	9	0
Do platters	1	4	0
Do basons	0	3	6
pitchers	0	2	0
glases	0	3	0
cups & sau[c]ers	0	2	0
Tea pots	0	0	6
bowles	0	2	0
Bottles	0	1	0
Cream pots	0	3	0
Milk pans	0	3	0
Jugs	0	2	0
puding pans & boles	0	1	0
tea spones	0	1	0
candle sticks	0	4	0
shovel & tongs	0	3	0
And Irons	0	12	0
<hr/>			
	£19	15	9

brass kittle	[£]0	15	0
pots	0	6	0
Dish kittles	0	3	0
Tea Do.	0	3	0
skillets	0	4	0
grid Iron	0	1	0
Billows	0	1	6
Coffee pots	0	2	0
Tin pale	0	1	0
pales	0	2	0
flat irons	0	3	0
Knives & forks	0	4	0
tost iron	0	1	0
grate	0	0	6
stilyards	0	3	0
seive	0	1	0
hammers	0	0	9
half bushel & measures	0	3	0
washtubs	0	2	0
cheese tubs & keelers	0	4	6
cheese press	0	2	0
baskets	0	2	0
frying pan	0	1	0
shirts	0	12	0
strait bodied coat	0	12	0
great coat	0	3	0
small clothes	0	4	6
fustian coat	0	4	0
waistcoats	0	4	6
hat	0	5	0
shoes	0	2	7
stockings	0	4	6
Table clothes & towels	0	19	6
1 <sup>st</sup> Bed & beding	3	18	0
2 Do Do	3	6	0
3 Do Do	3	0	0
4 Do Do	3	0	0
5 Do — Do —	2	14	—
Oxen	12	0	0
Cows	9	0	0

---

£43 15 10

Sow & pig	[£]2	2	0
2 hogs	4	0	0
3 Young cattle 3 years old	7	4	0
2 yearlings	3	0	0
Mair & colt	9	0	0
1 yearling	1	16	0
2 2 years old	4	4	0
Large plow	0	18	0
Reals	0	1	0
hand saw	0	0	9
sickels	0	1	0
Tunnels	0	0	8
Canisters	0	1	2
Books	0	6	8
stove	0	3	6
warming pan	0	3	0
Cheese hoops	0	1	6
Churn	0	3	6
Boxes	0	0	5
Kitchel	0	3	9
Cards	0	1	6
Breadtrough	0	1	6
	33	13	11
	43	15	10
	19	15	9
	525	14	3
Equal in Dollars to —	£622	19	9

D 2076.72

Joseph Allen

Joseph Sawtell Jr. apprizers.

Amos Davis

Groton May 29<sup>th</sup> 1798

Total 2076.72

We add  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a pew below 10.

half of a pew above 6.67

a Grind stone 0.75

D 2094.14

Middlesex ss in Probate Court at Groton 17 octob<sup>r</sup>. 1798.

Amos Lawrance the admor having made oath to the Inventory before me I order that it be recorded.

Oliver Prescott. J. prob.

## XVI.

From the Middlesex Registry of Probate : —

An Inventory of the real estate whereof Samuel Lawrence late of Groton in the County of Middlesex, Esq. deceased died siezed and possessed taken by us the subscribers on oath pursuant to the warrant hereto annexed. Real estate.

Homsted Farm of the deceased. . . . . \$4000.

About ten Acres of land on the West side of Nashua River adjoining thereto. | 100.

About twenty five Acres of land on the West side of said River, called "Wrangling Swamp." | 300.

One undivided half of twenty three Acres of wood land on Squannacook Plains so called 69.

About ten Acres of Wood Land situated on the east side of said River and adjoining the same. 250.

A Pew in the Groton Meeting House being No. [ ] 70.

A Pew in Union Meeting House 100.

A Horse stable near the last mentioned Meeting House — 35.

About five Acres of land in Long Pond Woods — 25.

---

4949.00

Personal estate.

In North Front Room.

Glass Ware 5.90 Decanter stands .50

Bread & cheese Tray 1.50 — 7.90

Crockery & China Ware 9. Candle sticks & snuffer Tray  
snuffer Tray 2.00 11.00

Fendor, Fire sett, hooks and Hearth-brush 12.

Soffa 6. Card Table 5. 23.00

Carpet & floor Cloath 22. Dining Table & Cloath 4. 26.00

7 chairs 4.50 — Looking glass 4.50 — 9.00

In South Front Room.

Carpet 5.00, 9 chairs & 2 Cushions 5.

Pembroke Table & cover. 4 — 14.00

Light stand .50, Easy chair 9. Fire sett 6.	
2 pr. bellows 1. Looking glass 4.	\$20.50
Bed, bedsted sacking and Curtains 15. Books 24 —	39.00
Front entry carpets — stair carpet and rods 6.	6.00
In North Bed Room.	
Bed & bedsted 5. Night Cabinet 6. old case drawers 1.	
Woolen Wheel 1.	13.00
Back North chamber.	
Bed, bedsted, and beding &c.	13.00
	<hr/>
	182.40
Amt. Brought forward —	182.40
In Buttery — Wooden Ware 1.50 Tin Ware 3.25	
Table .60 churn 2.00	6.75
Earthern Ware 3.50, 60 lbs butter & Furkins 10.	
Hogs Lard 1.50	15.00
Lot of Glass bottles 4.00, $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel of Flour 3.	
Apple sauce & cask 1.25 Candles 2.25	10.50
In Meal Room — Tin Kitchen 1.50 Coffee Mill 1.75	
Logerhead .25 Sieves .25	3.75
In Small Kitchen. Tin Ware 2.00 Pewter 1.50	
Brass Wash Dish & skimmers 1.25	4.75
2 Warming Pans 2.50 Crockery Ware 1.	
Milk Pans 1.25 Iron Ware 18.50	23.25
Copper and Brass Kettles 13. Cheese Press .50	
Clothes Line & Pins .50	14.00
Water Pails and Wash Tubs 1. 4 chairs 1.50	
Table .33, 2 pr steel yards 1.25	4.08
choping Knife — 20	.20
	<hr/>
	82.28
In Large Kitchen. Dish covers 9. 18 sheets 6.	
19 Pillow cases 2.37	17.37
4 coarce Towels .40, 10 napkins 1.58	
1 doz. Table cloaths 6. 3 damask table cloaths 4.	11.98
1 check Table Cloath 2 & 1 Flannel ditto .50	
4 Large silver spoons 8.	10.50

10 Tea Spoons 4.50	Sugar Tongs .50	Knife Tray &	
2 Knife baskets .50			\$5.50
3 doz. knives & forks	2 carving knives & forks and steel —		10.50
5 Waiters 1.50,	2 brass candle sticks & snuffer tray		1.50
2 Tables 2.50			5.50
Old chest .66,	5 old chairs 1.25	Looking Glass .75	
Old Desk 2.			4.66
Old clock 5.	Crockery Ware 5.40,	2 Coolers .25	
2 Coffee & 2 Tea Pots 4.00			14.65
Sugar and Pail 3.	Tin ware .50	spice Box .33	3.83
In North Front Chamber —	Carpet and Hearth Rug 7.		
4 chairs 2.			9.00
Bed, Bedding, Mattress, Bedsted & Curtains 50.			
4 pr sheets 10.	7 napkins 2.		62.00
7 pr pillow cases 4.	Looking Glass 2.	Toilette 1.	
Bureau 10.			17.00
Wash stand Pitcher & Bowl 5.	1 Chamber vessel .25		5.25
			<hr/>
			177.74
In South Front Chamber, Carpet 1.	Wash stand,		
Bowl & Pitcher 2.	Bureau 6.		9.00
Looking Glass .75,	3 chairs 1.	1 pr dogs & Tongs .50	
Window curtains .75			3.00
Bed, bedding, bedsted, and Mattress .25,	Bed, bedding		
bedsted sacking & curtains 25			50.00
2 chamber vessels .50			.50
In Kitchen Chamber, Bed bedding & bedsted 9.			
2 Comforts & bedquilts 6.50			15.50
Looking Glass .75	old case of draws 2.		
Tool stove .50,	2 Woolen Blankets 3.		6.25
2 Chairs 1.00,	4 Bed Quilts 5.50		6.50
In Back South Chamber, Bed, bedding & bedsted 8.			
1 Chair .33	Old Chest .50		8.83
In the Garrett, 2 bushels of beans 2.			
Warping bars & Weavers Reeds 3.			5.00
In Cellar. 26 Barrels of Cider & casks full			



& 6 empty casks 40.	Soal Leather 2.	42.00
Potatoes supposed to be 175 bushels 35.		
1 bushel of onions 1.	Soap and casks 5	\$41.00
5 bushels of Carrots 1.25	Pork & meal 18.	
Cheese [150 lbs] 10		29.25
		<hr/>
		216.83
		<hr/>
	Carried forward —	659.25
	Amt. bro't forward —	\$659.25
Double Sleigh & Box 12.	3 old saddles & bridle 4.	
old Iron .50	small wagon & Harness 10.	26.50
single sleigh & Harness 7.	Grindstone & Frame 3.	
2 bar <sup>ls</sup> of vinegar & 4 casks 6.		16.00
2 Iron Bars 4.25	Beetle & 4 wedges 1.25	
dry casks 1.25	Wood saw .50	6.25
20 Cords of Woods 40.	2 Hammers .50	
3 axes 1.25	Wheel Barrow 1.50	43.25
Lot of baskets .50	Slug wheel cart 7.	
Narrow Wheel cart 16.	Large Saw 2.50	26.00
Mortice Axe and ditching knife 2.	Scythes & sneaths 2.50,	
8 rakes & 1 Potatoe rake .75		6.25
2 hoes 1.	4 Pitch Forks 1.	
Hay hook .25		
Winnowing Mill 8.	Cider Mill shovel .75	11.00
60 bushels of corn 45.	2 Flails .50	
6 meal bags 2.	30 Tons of Hay \$268	315.50
25 bushels of rye 20.	Stoves 5.	
4 bushels of meal 3.00		28.00
one horse 60.	1 pr of Oxen 80.	
1 pr 2 yrs old steers 47.	5 cows 90.	277.00
1 year'g heifer 10.	2 heifer calves 11.	
6 sheep 18.		39.00
2 Harrows 7.50,	4 Ploughs 25.	
4 Mud & Dung Forks 3.	Spade .75	36.25
3 draft chains 4.00,	2 pr chain traces & Whippetree chains 3.	
2 collars .50		7.50

a Lot of Yokes and Irons 3.50	2 ox sleds 5.	
one old swine 15.	3 young swine 15.	\$38.50
one chaise and Harness		50 00
		<hr/> \$927.00
Total of personal estate		\$1586.25
Total of Real estate		4949.00
Dec <sup>m</sup> . 22 <sup>d</sup> . 1827.		<hr/> \$6535.25
	Abel Farnsworth,	
	Joseph F. Hall,	
	Walter Dickson Jr.	

## XVII.

DEED OF SALE FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
TO DANIEL LAWRENCE.

From the first volume of the records of the Proprietors of Canaan, Conn. (p. 1) : —

Whereas By an Act of ye ginaral Asembly Holden at New haven october 13, 1737, entitled an act for ye ordering and directing ye sale and settlement of all ye townships in ye western Lands ; among other things it is enacted that ye northwest town in s<sup>d</sup> Land bounding west by Housatanock River shall be vandued and sold at ye Court House in New London to ye hig[h]est bid[d]ers being inhabitence of this colony and ye first Tu[e]sday of Jan[u]ary next at one of ye clock in ye afternoon and continue by Adjournments till ye [w]hole be sold by Sam'l Lynd, John Griswold and John Richards esquires, they or any two of them to be a comity in ye name of ye governor and company to sell all rights to the lands and give Deads [deeds] . . . therefor : to all people to [w]home these presents shall come, gre[e]ting : Know ye that we Sam Lynde, John Griswold and John Richards by vartue of ye power and authority to us granted in s<sup>d</sup> act for and in consideration of ye sum of one hundred [and] fifty foure [pounds], twelve shillings to us in hand paid,

before ye Insealing hear of by Daniel Lawrence of Plainfield in ye county of Windham in ye colony of Con[n]e[cti]cut ye Receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge and there upon in ye name of ye govener and company of ye colony aforesaid do give, grant, Bargain, sell, enfeof, convey and confirm unto ye s<sup>d</sup> Daniel Lawrence his Heirs [and] Assigns for ever, one Right, part, share or alotment in ye township aforesaid, ye same being devided into fifty three equal shares or alotments, exclusive of ye Lands granted to ye Colidg [college] and all former grants of ye general asembly that are survayed and Recorded in ye publick Records of ye colany and are l[y]ing in s<sup>d</sup> town with ye privildges and appurtinances thereof, theiron or th[e]ireunto belonging; to have and to hold ye s<sup>d</sup> granted and bargined premises with all and singular ye appurt[e]nances theriof unto ye s<sup>d</sup> Daniel Lawrance, his Heirs and Asigns forever to his and their own sole and proper use, benefit and beho[o]f, and we ye s<sup>d</sup> Sam'l Lynde, John griswold and John Richards' do covenant to and with ye s<sup>d</sup> Daniel Lawrence his Heirs and Asigns in man[n]er and form folowing, that is to say that at and untill ye ensealing of these presents, we by vartue of ye power and a[u]thority to us granted, have good Right to sell and dispose of ye s<sup>d</sup> granted premises in maner as afore<sup>s</sup>d and that ye same is and shall be a good and indefeasible estat[e] of inheritance in fee simple and is free from all incombrences whatsoever, all ways provided and these presents are upon this condition, that If ye s<sup>d</sup> Daniel Lawrence shall by himself or his Agent within ye space of two full years nex[t] after the date hearof enter upon ye s<sup>d</sup> granted premises, build and finish an house theiron not less than eighteen feets square and seven feets stud, subdue, clear and Fence six acres of s<sup>d</sup> land and continue theiron for ye space of three successive years, comincing after ye two years afore<sup>s</sup>d unless prevented by Death or inevitable providence and do and perform all orders and duties, pay all taxes that shall be granted, then the afores<sup>d</sup> deed shall remain in full force and vartue, but in

defalt or neglect in either or all of these s<sup>d</sup> articles, ye same shall be void and of none effect, in witness we have hear- unto set our hands and seals this fo[u]rth day of January, An[n]oque domi [Domini] 1738.

Signed, sealed and  
delivered in presents  
of

Tho. prentis  
george Richard

N. London.

Jan[u]ary ye 4. 1738.

Samuell Lynde  
John griswold  
John Richards

Sam'l Lynde, John Griswold and John Richards parsnally Apered and Acknolid[g]ed ye above Riten instrement to be their free act and Deed.

before me

Tho. prentis

Justis peace.

by me

David Whitney  
proprietors Clark.

---

EPITAPHS IN THE OLD CEMETERY AT LEXINGTON.

Here Lyes the Body of Deacon Nathaniel  
Lawrance, formally of Groton. Dec<sup>d</sup>. at  
Lexington April — the 14th — 1724  
in the 85th Year of His age.

“Hear Lies Buried y<sup>e</sup> Body of Mr John  
Lawrance who Departed This Life  
March y<sup>e</sup> 12th A.D. 1746-7.  
Age 79 years 7 M & 11 Ds.”

Here lyes Buried y<sup>e</sup> Body of Mrs  
Anna Lawrance wife to Mr John Law-  
rance who Died Decemb<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1732  
in y<sup>e</sup> 63<sup>rd</sup> Year of Her Age.

[Cherub's head and wings.]

[Hour glass.]

*As time doth fly, our death draws nigh.*

Here lies the Body of M<sup>r</sup> Jonathan Law-  
rence who departed this Life March  
the 19<sup>th</sup> 1773 in the 68<sup>th</sup> year of his Age.

*From Death arrest no age is free.*

*My fri[e]nds prepare to follow me.*

[Cherub's head and wings.]

In Memory of M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Lawrence,  
Relict of Mr Jonathan Lawrence, who  
died July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1790, Aged 83 years.

Here Lies y<sup>e</sup> Body of Beniamin Lawrance,  
Son of M<sup>r</sup> Jonathan & M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Law-  
rance Who Died June y<sup>e</sup> 19, 1753 Aged  
2 years 9 Month.

Here Lies y<sup>e</sup> Body of Anna Lawrance  
Daft<sup>r</sup> of Mr Jonathan & M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth  
Lawrance Who Died July y<sup>e</sup> 18 1753  
Aged 7 years 4 months.

#### LINCOLN EPITAPHS.

*Memento mori.*

[Cherub's head and wings.]

Here Lies the Body  
of M<sup>r</sup> Nehemiah  
Abbo<sup>t</sup> Who departed  
this Life Febr<sup>y</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1767  
In the 76<sup>th</sup> year of  
his age.

And also the Body  
of M<sup>rs</sup> Sarah Abbot  
wife of M<sup>r</sup> Nehemiah Abbot  
who departed this Life  
October 4<sup>th</sup> 1755 In  
the 63<sup>d</sup> Year of her age

[Nehemiah and Sarah Abbott were the parents of Abigail  
Abbott, who married Capt. Amos Lawrence Nov. 7, 1749.]

## PLAINFIELD EPITAPH.

In Memory of Mr Joseph Lawrence  
Who Died July y<sup>e</sup> 11th A.D. 1756.

Aged 66 years.

[A son of Peleg, and grandson of John Lawrence of  
Wisset, Eng.]

EPITAPHS FROM THE OLD CEMETERY AT PUTNAM  
HEIGHTS (NORTH KILLINGLY), CONN.

In memory of Lieut. Elihu Lawrence  
Who died Sept<sup>r</sup> 10 A D 1815 In his 79th year.

Hail glorious Gospel heavenly light whereby  
We live with comfort and with comfort die ;  
And when beyond this gloomy scene, the tomb  
A life of endless happiness to come.

Sacred to the memory of Mr Asa Lawrence  
Who died Oct. 19 1813 In his 71<sup>st</sup> year.

Tis but a few whose years amount  
To three score years and ten  
And all beyond that short account  
Is sorrow toil and pain.

In Memory of Mrs Lucy Lawrence wife of  
Mr Asa Lawrence who died  
May 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1819 In her 72<sup>nd</sup> year.

A consort kind and good a parent dear  
To all obliging and to all sincere  
True to her God the orphans friend & Guide  
She lived beloved and lamented died.

In memory of John Lawrence  
who died Sept. 27 1832, aged 76 years.

My friends I bid you all adieu  
I leave you in good care  
And if I neaver more see you  
Go on I meet you thear.

In Memory of Mrs Phebe Lawrence  
 wife of Dea<sup>n</sup> John Lawrence, who died  
 Aug 14 1813, Aged 52 yrs. 5m.

[A]ffliction sore long time I bore  
 Physicians skill was vain  
 Till . . . eased to giv[e]  
 . . . [illegible] . . . my . . .

Sarah  
 wife of Dea. John Lawrence died Dec 27 1846  
 Aged 74.

The great, the good, the wise, the just,  
 Must all in time be turned to dust.  
 Then learn to quit terrest[r]ial ties,  
 That you may soar above the skies,  
 And then enjoy the blissful favor  
 Of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

#### LITTLETON EPITAPHS.

*Memento mori.*

[Cherub's head and wings.]

Erected In Memory of Deacon Jonathan  
 Lawrance Who departed this life Dec<sup>r</sup> ye 8<sup>th</sup>  
 1789 Aged 86 years 1 month and 23 days.

Here Lies Buried The Body of Mrs Trypheuny  
 Lawrance Wife of Mr Jonathan Lawrance  
 Who Departed this life August ye 25 A.D.  
 1752 In y 42 year of Her Age.

*Memento mori.*

[Cherub's head and wings.]

In memory of Cap<sup>t</sup>. David Lawrance  
 who departed this life Sept ye 28<sup>th</sup> A.D.  
 1790 In the 85<sup>th</sup> year of his age.



*Memento mori.*

In Memory of M<sup>rs</sup> Hannah Lawrance  
 (Relict of Cap<sup>t</sup> David Lawrance) who  
 departed this life May the 8<sup>th</sup> 1791  
 In the 67 year of her age.

## PEPPERELL EPITAPHS.

[Cherub's head.]

Here lies the Body of M<sup>r</sup> Zachariah Lawrence,  
 who departed this Life Jan<sup>ry</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1754

In the 71<sup>st</sup> year of his age.

[A son of Enosh Lawrence.]

[Urn.]

In memory of Cap<sup>t</sup>. James & Mrs Mary Lawrence

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lawrence

departed this

life Jan'y 23<sup>d</sup>

1800 in the

97<sup>th</sup> Year of

his age.

Mrs Lawrence

departed this

life Dec<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup>

1799 in the

87<sup>th</sup> Year of

her age.

[Capt. James Lawrence was a son of Nathaniel, and grand-son of Enosh.]

[Cherub's head and wings.]

In memory of Mrs Sybil Lawrence, wife of

Cap<sup>t</sup> Benj<sup>n</sup> Lawrence, who deceased Nov<sup>br</sup>

28<sup>th</sup> 1797 aged 52 Years & 22 days.

[Cherub's head.]

In Memory of Molley Lawrence Dau<sup>g</sup> of

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Benjamin & M<sup>rs</sup> Sibbel Lawrence

who died Sep<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1790 aged 2 Years

5 Months & 10 days.

[Lieu<sup>t</sup>. or Capt. Benjamin Lawrence was a son of Capt. James Lawrence.]

*Memento mori.*

[Cherub's head and wings.]

Here lies the Remains of Mr Jeremiah Lawrence who was chosen the first Deacon of the Church in this Place Jan<sup>ry</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1748 and departed this Life Aug<sup>t</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1759  
In the 47<sup>th</sup> Year of his Age.

[A son of Zechariah, and grandson of Enosh.]

[Willow-tree and urn.]

In memory of Doct. Ephraim Lawrence  
Who died Dec. 23, 1809, Aet. 75.

[He was a son of Deacon Peleg Lawrence.]

[Urn.]

Erected in Memory of Major Thomas  
Lawrence who died July 27, 1822. Aet. 65.

Ah ! trust not to your fleeting breath,  
Nor call your time your own ;  
Around you see the Scythe of death  
is mowing thousands down.  
And you who hitherto are spared  
Must shortly yield your lives  
Your wisdom is to be prepared  
Before the stroke arrives.

Thomas S. Lawrence Died July 10th  
1811, Aet. 28 yrs & 6 mos.

Rebecca His wife Died Feb. 12, 1853  
Aet. 71 yrs & 9 mos.

Tis God that lifts our comforts high  
or sinks them in the grave ;  
He gives and blessed be his name  
He takes but what he gave  
Peace all our angry passions then  
Let each rebellious sigh  
Be silent at his sovereign will  
And every murmur die.

[Thomas S. Lawrence was the oldest son of Major Thomas  
Lawrence of Pepperell.]

EPITAPHS FROM THE LOWER CEMETERY IN NORTH  
CANAAN, CONN.

In Memory of Cap<sup>t</sup> Daniel Lawrence  
he died May 8<sup>th</sup> 1777 In the 97<sup>th</sup>  
year of his age.

In Memory of Cap Daniel Law-  
rence Jun<sup>r</sup>., he died Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 1790  
AE 87.

In Memory of Mrs Rachel wife  
to Cap<sup>t</sup> Daniel Lawrence Jun<sup>r</sup>.  
She died Mar 3<sup>d</sup> 1767 AE 63.

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A Sermon commemorative of William Lawrence, Boston,  
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Extracts from the Diary and Correspondence of the late  
Amos Lawrence, with a brief account of some incidents in  
his life. Edited by his son, William R. Lawrence, M.D.  
Boston, 1855.

A Sermon on "the Moral Power of Character," as illus-  
trated by the life of Amos Lawrence. By the Rev. Dr  
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"The Stewardship of Wealth as illustrated in the Lives of Amos and Abbott Lawrence." By Frank W. Ballard. 1865.

A Sermon commemorative of William Richards Lawrence, M.D. By the Rev. R. H. Howe. Boston, 1885.

The Life of Amos A. Lawrence. By William Lawrence. Boston, 1888.

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*"The waves of Time may devastate our lives,  
The frosts of age may check our failing breath :  
They shall not touch the spirit that survives  
Triumphant over doubt and pain and death."*



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